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Prototype of AD 2000 house – in plastic

Kieler Nachrichten

Eleven hours was all it took to erect the World's largest house made of artificial materials at Altenstadt in Hesse. The architect of this unique building which gives a hint of the way men may be living in the future is 32-year-old mechanical engineer Wolfgang Fierbach.

He worked first of all in the European and American aircraft industries where he gained experience with plastics before setting up his own factory six years ago. Nowadays his factory has an international reputation for producing models for machine manufacture and in the production of avant garde plastic furniture which finds its main market in America.

Fierbach has put his plastic house "fg 2000" on show to several hundred experts and journalists from the Federal Republic and abroad. He could not rid himself of the idea that "our buildings are still left overs from the nineteenth century. We must strick out in new directions."

With the aid of the largest chemical factories in this country this prolific inventor set to work with his 20-strong staff in Altenstadt.

The first ever plastic house in the world was put on show ten years ago in Disneyland, California. This has since been dismantled. Trials have been undertaken in the Soviet Union, in France and in Holland.

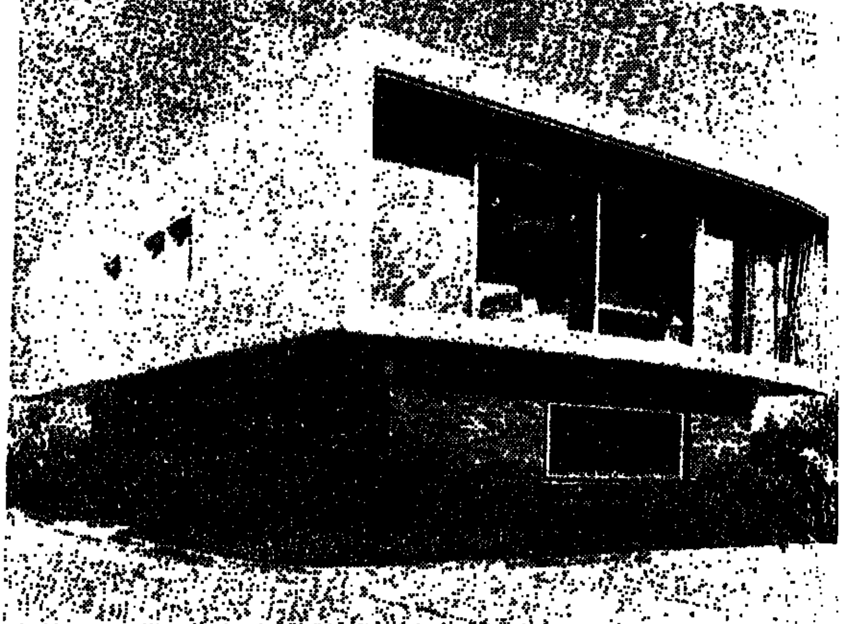
Building contractor Schmidt in Biberach built a house with a plastic exterior but steel supports. And its interior furnishing was in convential wood.

Fierbach's house, on the other hand, is entirely of fibre glass. The only other materials he has used are aluminium for the window frames and glass for the windows.

The building was assembled without crane, lifting gear or any other heavy machinery. The wall and roof pieces are only 8 centimetres thick and have insulation qualities of a 1.3 metre thick brick wall.

An assembler screwed the pieces together. Floor areas up to fifty metres are possible without interior supporting walls. The Altenstadt house has a surface area of 160 square metres, broken up only by plastic sideboards and cupboards. These brightly coloured pieces of furniture are on castors. There are no doors and by pulling out one part of the cupboard it is possible to take out clothing, books and cutlery.

The walls are covered with plastic textiles which can be removed for cleaning in a matter of seconds by unzipping them. Nails for hanging up pictures do not have to be hammered into the wall but can be pushed in like drawing pins.



The plastic house in Altenstadt, Hesse

(Photo: Klaus Meier-Ude)

The bath is plastic. So is the large cirular bed which revolves at the push of a button to alter the sleeping position.

Colourful and gayly patterned carpets – of plastic – are laid on the floor and the ceiling. Electric wall heating is provided. Thanks to the excellent insulation system heating costs will be halved.

Wolfgang Feierbach sums it up thus: I know my house would not suit everyone. It will take a long time before people in general are prepared to break away from conventional building styles."

From the outside the house looks futuristic. Its interior is more like a Hollywood star's paradise.

Unfurnished the prototype house in Altenstadt costs 190,000 Marks.

Fierbach says: "This is not an astronomical figure. It is right in line with the higher priced convetional type of building."

He expects his prospective tenants to come from the ranks of architects, engineers, doctors, lawyers, successful artists, film and television stars or pop singers, advertising managers, in short people from the profesional, executive or other highly paid classes.

"These are the people," says Wolfgang Fierbach, "who are receptive to new ideas and modern day patterns of future living?"

Wolfgang Fierbach is optimistic. He says, "Grandmother's old ideas of living are dead and buried. I am showing people of 1969 how they will live in the year 2000." (Kieler Nachrichten, 6 November 1969)

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

One of the world's top ten

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The German Tribune

Hamburg, 2 December 1969
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A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

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A call for more cooperation on foreign affairs

Süddeutsche Zeitung

When US Secretary of State William P. Rogers announced, on taking office, that he would no doubt be spending his first few months as a learner the remark was taken to be more than a sign of winsome modesty.

It was presumed that President Nixon would be unlikely to refrain from taking foreign policy decisions himself.

In countries governed by parliamer Ministers in a newly-formed government generally need a certain amount of time to put themselves into the picture. The newly-formed Social and Free Democratic coalition in Bonn was not allowed the slightest breathing-space, though.

Hardly was the excitement of the election campaign and the swift formation of the new government over and done with but problems requiring immediate attention moved in on all sides.

This is particularly true as far as Foreign Minister Walter Scheel is concerned. A succession of important dates awaited him, each calling for the most thorough preparation. This is always the case with conferences on which the Federal Republic can bring no immediate influence to bear even though its very fate might be affected.

As the emerging policies pursued by the new Opposition appear to include a certain amount of campaign backlog it is, perhaps, not superfluous to note that the present government did not wilfully and foolhardily select the tasks facing it of its own accord.

The American government's desire to engage in talks with the Soviet Union and Russia's aim to secure "international" confirmation of the consolidation of its sphere of influence both have more to do with the push for time than alleged eagerness or wantonness on the part of the Brandt-Scheel government.

A number of things are taking a course different to that expected by observers of the change-over who either believed in miracles or feared the worst.

Those who had feared that the determined endeavour to make faster progress in policy towards the Eastern Bloc might prove grist to the mill of a dangerous surrender of links with the West can breathe a sigh of relief.

At the Hague Six summit at the very latest it will be evident that the new Federal government is not prepared to abandon one iota of what guarantees security in the lap of the West, based as it is on mutual undertakings.

Bonn will also do all in its power to ensure that the European Economic Community is salvaged as a foundation stone of the political integration that remains to be achieved. It will do so no matter how difficult the task may prove now that the EEC has entered a politically sterile phase due to the paradoxes of the agricultural common market.

Bonn is also counting on President Pompidou's discernment and authority on Britain's Common Market entry bid. It remains convinced that there is no way of avoiding France.

At the moment the impression may be conveyed that the present government, pledged as it is to pursue an active policy towards the Eastern Bloc, is withdrawing to legal positions offered it by the West. This is due solely to the situation, not to a change of mind.

Following paralysing stagnation the West is on the move again. It is clear what is going on. France and Britain are drawing closer together.

They may be doing so because many Frenchmen once more favour reinsurance against a far over-rated power in Bonn and may be because the determinedly pro-European British government is making use of a favourable current of domestic opinion before it begins to decline.

Maybe, for that matter, Paris and London feel that General de Gaulle's revered independence is passé as a bone of contention now that America might revert to isolationism after the shattering experience of Vietnam.

At all events it is vital for this country to participate in the process of consolidation of Western Europe that has got under way.

To the East all is uncertainty. The Russians treat everything they start on as makeshift and it is not yet clear what they are aiming at. They are working with two as it were, occasionally interlocking systems.

The one remains based on the military blocs or, to be more exact, on the relationship between the two nuclear superpowers.

Yet even in Helsinki there is still no prospect of clarity as to whether arms parity and the balance of power will really be at stake or whether it is merely a matter of safeguarding one's own superiority, coupled with the tacit proviso to continue brazenly to rearm in case of doubt.

The other system, by means of which Moscow is aiming at a general European security conference, appears to be intended to comprise a number of regional agreements for which Premier Kosygin's successful arbitration between India and Pakistan, which is highly regarded in Moscow, may be intended as a blueprint.

While aiming at multilateral talks in Europe the Russians will not want to preclude the possibility of bilateral discussions – between Bonn and Warsaw, for instance – but always with the tacit proviso that they must have the last word.

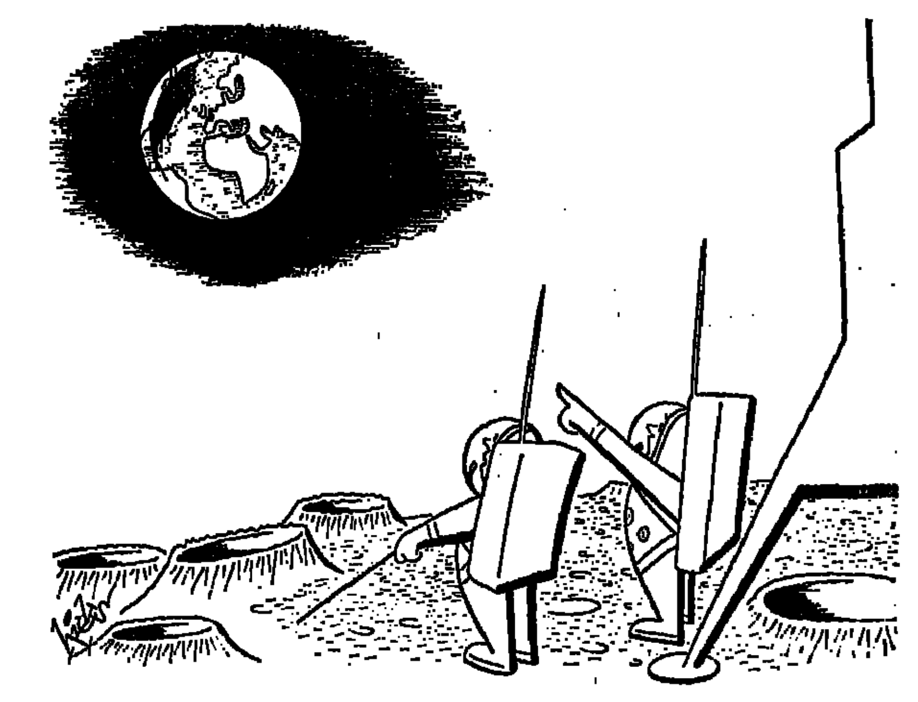
And who can tell whether the last word as far as this country is concerned might not be cued by Walter Ulbricht again?

There is no opportunity for adventure at the moment and the Brandt-Scheel government has no intention of embarking on any.

The Christian Democratic parliamentary party chairman, Bruno Heck, may have announced at his party's Mainz conference that the Opposition does not know why the government is in such a hurry to sign the non-proliferation treaty and is equally in the dark as to the government's viewpoint on the Hague summit, talks with Poland, renunciation of the use of force and a European security agreement but the attempt to make the Opposition out to be criminally neglected has a rather artificial ring.

Rainer Barzel's conclusion that "should the coalition be of the opinion that it is enough to inform the CDU/CSU after the decision has been taken and immediately prior to it being made public the Opposition would sooner do without" sounds very much as though the parliamentary party leader is still mesmer-

Continued on page 2



What's happened? How peaceful the Earth seems from here!

(Cartoon: Hicks/DIE WELT)

IN THIS ISSUE

Paris stalls on London's EEC entry

"It is in France's interest for Britain to sign the Treaty of Rome." Many would have agreed, both in France and elsewhere, but it had yet to be seen in black and white in a French official document.

The sentence can now be read in the foreword to a report submitted by the foreign policy commission of the French National Assembly. Like that body itself, the commission was formed largely of representatives of the government coalition.

It is explained in detail. France's interests in British membership of the European Common Market are political, economic, military and strategic.

Parliamentary commissions bring no direct influence to bear on the executive or the diplomatic corps but if there is a majority on the foreign policy commission of the National Assembly for this viewpoint there can be no doubt, given the present constitution of the National Assembly, that it is *not* a majority directed against the Gaullists and President Pompidou.

It must be a specific sign of the will to depart from Gaullist maxims, a pointer to the swing in French policy on European integration that is now inevitable.

Other pointers preceded it. The reorientation on nuclear energy added a great deal of water ot the wine of de Gaulle's doctrine of independence. While the General was still in power it was clear that Paris felt a little hemmed in by this country's economic expansion.

The entente cordiale, Paris now feels, was not such a bad idea after all.

President Pompidou must now proceed a step further beyond historical antagonism. M. Paul Huvelin, chairman of the French employers association, recently told foreign journalists that a further framework, a higher level, is now needed in the European concert. The Common Market has become too small. He can only be congtatulated on having realised the fact. (Handelsblatt, 24 November 1969)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Opponents meet in Helsinki

DANGERS OF SOVIET ADVANTAGES

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

The Helsinki talks between the two world powers could give rise to hopes. They are the first time in history that potential opponents have been prepared to exchange strategic information and ideas. Yet the abbreviation Salt, standing for Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, brings back to mind their stated purpose, which is not quite so far-reaching.

The mere term "strategic arms" presents the two delegations at the preparatory talks in Helsinki with serious problems. For a long time all nuclear weapons were considered to be strategic arms. The use of but a single atomic warhead could well bring about the escalation of any conflict to nuclear warfare and general war – the third this century.

In the wake of tactics and military technology staff officers are operating in terms of nuclear field weapons, ranges and estimates of nuclear explosive power by the kilo and megaton of conventional explosive. Politicians, on the other hand, must recognise the special nature of these weapons of destruction, the ownership of which is important but the use catastrophic and probably pointless.

The preliminary talks in Helsinki will accordingly deal mainly with strategic arms that already disturb the balance of power and would, if further developed, jeopardise the security of virtually equal arms potentials.

The key words are ABM, or anti-ballistic missile, and MIRV, or multiple independently targeted re-entry vehicle. Differences in arms levels (the Soviet Union leads the field in anti-missiles while the United States could practically convert its present long-distance missiles to multiple warheads) are making agreement increasingly difficult to reach.

The opponent cannot accurately assess MIRV potential. This fact alone makes it clear that the ideal juncture for a moratorium is already past history.

Were the two delegations now negotiating in Helsinki to come to an agreement after all – were they, that is, to hit on a mutually acceptable system of inspection and control – the first and unquestionably most important step towards and arms armistice would have been taken.

Only when agreement has been reached on ABM systems and MIRVs can the dialogue about the arsenals of strategic weapons originally on the agenda at the end of 1967 begin. The Soviet Union has long made up its backlog.

According to the reliable estimates of the Institute for Strategic Studies, London, the Soviet Union has increased the number of its ICBMs on standby from 460 in 1967 to a present total of roughly 1,050. With 1,054 ICBMs, mainly Minutemen, *the United States* has a lead of a mere four missiles.

Admittedly the United States also has a fleet of 510 strategic bombers or so and also leads the field in Polaris submarines. With 656 Polaris missiles at the ready the United States is, for the time being, well ahead of the Soviet Union, which has only 160 similar missiles.

If the talks commenced in Helsinki do reach the point at which consideration is given to balanced arms reductions the number of countries interested will automatically be greater. European countries might, as it were, be marginally interested in a moratorium on ABM and MIRV systems but all talks on a reduction in strategic arms systems in being directly affect European and German interests.

In one sector the Soviet Union has absolute predominance, undermined but far from eliminated by an abundance of Western weapons systems. Roughly 750 medium-distance missiles with ranges of 1,500 and 2,500 kilometres and ready targeted towards China, Japan and Europe are stationed in the Soviet Union itself.

It can be assumed that the majority of these one-megaton missiles, aimed at Europe, are mainly intended to deal with Nato airfields and population centres.

Within the framework of the Atlantic alliance the countries of Western Europe have been equipped with American missiles, which represent a certain counter to the Soviet threat. Like other Allied forces the Bundeswehr could, with its Pershing missiles and F 104 Starfighters, carry out a strike against numerous Soviet middle-distance missile launching pads.

It cannot, on the other hand, be forgotten that the Red Army, including, for instance, units stationed in the German Democratic Republic, also possesses wide-ranging and extremely mobile missiles.

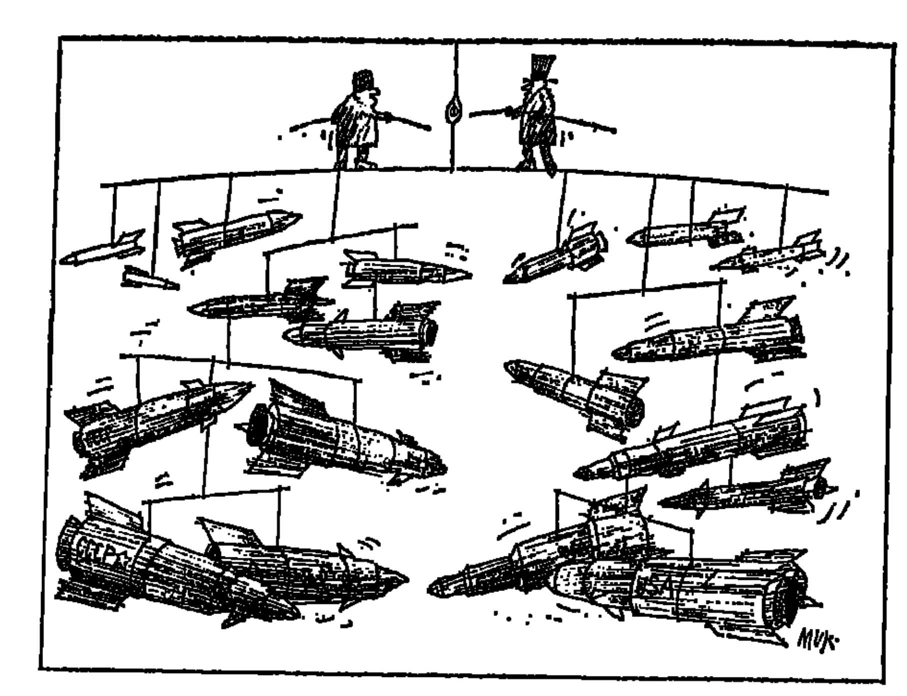
No reduction in the number of strategic weapons pointed threateningly at Europe, no matter how equal the arrangement might look on paper, could fail to be to the Soviet Union's advantage.

For this reason the Americans have for the time being insisted that Nato arms are to be disregarded in the strategic dialogue. They have also agreed to consult the governments of Nato countries before concluding arms agreements concerning Europe.

There can be no doubt whatsoever that the Soviet Union once more sees the prospect of making West Germany a nuclear-free zone, which would involve the transfer of missiles and 7,000 warheads to the hinterlands of the Continent. At this point the strategic dialogue would develop into talks on Germany and as a specialist on this country chief Soviet delegate Semyonov is well equipped to handle them.

Armin Hale

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 November 1969)



The balancing act

(Cartoon: Murschetz/Süddeutsche Zeitung)

A call for more cooperation

Continued from page 1

ised by the customs prevalent in Adenauer's day.

After all that has been heard recently there is every reason to assume that the government is keeping the Opposition better informed than used to be customary in Bonn.

Cooperation of this kind will be needed too. CDU chairman Kurt Georg Kiesinger stated in Mainz that battle was to be engaged not in home affairs but in policy on the German Question and the Eastern Bloc and that the CDU would have to stand up to the SPD on these issues as they might prove to harbour the great alternative between the two.

The ex-Chancellor decidedly misjudged the situation here. Although it remains to be seen how the two systems manipulated by the Soviet Union will affect this country there can be no doubt that the action and reactions Bonn undertakes call for more mobility than ever *before* without there being any more foreign policy leeway available than in the past.

All three parties in the Bundestag will have more cause to cooperate than to formulate alternatives. In the present situation the art of the possible will prove an inexorable necessity.

Hermann Proebst

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 November 1969)

Another rejection of Red China

Following the annual General Assembly debate Red China has for the twentieth time been refused membership of the United Nations. The rejection came as no surprise. Even though the ratio is slowly moving in Peking's favour the number of noes was still more than half the UN membership.

America need not have resorted to the precautionary measure of having the application dealt with as an important issue on which a two-thirds majority is needed.

This procedure incidentally leads to the curious habit of a number of countries voting to treat the application as an important issue and then voting – purely platonically – in favour of Red Chinese entry. In this way they pay respects to both the West and the East.

The uncommon silence of the Soviet Union during the debate was symptomatic of the tension between Peking and Moscow. The Soviet delegation even restrained from leaving the chamber together with its satellites as usual when the Formosan representative mounted the rostrum.

The two Chinas issue and the permanent seat on the Security Council held by Nationalist China promise to be the most serious bones of contention should Peking one day become a member of the UN.

For a long period Red China attached no importance to membership of the world organisation, which, Mao maintains, is controlled by a US-Soviet conspiracy. In Sukarno's days there were even plans for a revolutionary counter-organisation, which would definitely have exercised a certain attraction for a number of developing nations and represented severe setbacks for the United Nations in its efforts to represent the entire world.

But times have changed. An anti-communist regime is now in power in Indonesia and the Soviet threat of intervention has given rise to awareness of foreign policy isolation in Peking, though this isolation is largely due to Peking's own policies and to the irrational excesses of the cultural revolution.

The return to foreign policy common sense ought to be sufficient to dissuade Peking from using the UN merely as a forum for launching Maoist tirades. The political educational effect of the United Nations has often been underestimated.

Even so Washington will not want to let Red China out of international quarantine as long as the Vietnam conflict continues and the lukewarm attitude of the Soviet Union bears witness to a growing community of interest with the United States. Mao will feel his conclusions have been confirmed.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 13 November 1969)

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POLITICS

Christian Democrats search for a party strategy

The Christian Democrats' first party conference as an opposition party has hinted at the beginning of a new strategy.

After the first shock of the changeover of power in Bonn the most pressing need for a renewed strategy in the CDU rests on the disturbing fact that the Social Democrats have had success on the first stage of breaking into the increasingly powerful independent middle-classes, into the Catholic sections of the community and into the ranks of the young voters.

Delegates in Mainz, particularly the younger ones, were not keen to pass this outcome of election analyses off as just mere chance or as bad luck on their part.

Kiesinger's repeated references to the absolute majority which had just escaped his party no longer cut much ice.

The are considered to miss the crux of the matter, the essence of the problem, and are no longer of any use to the party.

The CDU has to get to grips with the fact that 46.1 per cent of votes can be a good result in one sense and yet, structurally speaking, a bad outcome in another way.

If the swing should be strengthened by the fact that the SPD are now the top-dogs and have the impetus of governmental authority, the Social Democrats could at the next election become the strongest and even the governing party in the Federal Republic.

If the recognition of this fact has penetrated from the rejuvenated, qualified leadership into the depths of the party line-up then the days spent in conference at Mainz were useful for the CDU.

They were unable to achieve anything more than just the hint that a rejuvenation of the party strategy would be undertaken.

One thing that remains in doubt is where the centre of gravity of the CDU will lie in future. It may lie in the parliamentary party which Rainer Barzel has hammered into a compact organisation radiating the awareness of its own competence. Or it may lie in the CDU party for the first time.

For this latter, Kiesinger has said that he will give his all.

What is even more important is who will have the final say in the CDU. Where does one look to find how the strategy will be pursued beyond the initial stages, how it will be formulated and how the re-designed party will operate?

In Mainz there were only unofficial and unclear discussions on this score. Power was not concentrated, but dualised or perhaps even polarised. Concentrating party and parliamentary party leadership on Rainer Barzel was not possible.

It is hard to imagine Kiesinger as party leader, directing the CDU from its barracks, from local groups and the like.

In addition to this personal and institutionalised competition there comes the problems of cooperation with the Bavarian Christian Social Union and its chairman Franz Josef Strauss.

Rainer Barzel holds the CDU and CSU together through his office in the Bundestag. In the question of the conception of strategy he has to reckon with the stubbornness of Kiesinger and Strauss, each of whom considers himself the leader of the Opposition, and the one moreover as a candidate for the Chancellorship in 1973.

Kiesinger put in his claim for this candidature in Mainz. The central question of the party leadership, however, was only briefly touched upon in his speech.

Perhaps it was too early to clear up this point, perhaps there will not be an unambigous answer to it. The prominence of personalities has always been a successful policy of the Christian Democrats. This has been so for too long for a strict methodical political line to win a quick victory.

For the moment, then, all that remains is a kind of communal family leadership of the three strong men: Barzel, Strauss and Kiesinger who must all agree on a common strategy.

If this form of group dynamics functions it will have great effect on the central administration.

Strategy, which is based on exact analyses of election results, can only be of any use if it fuses together the diverse interests splitting the ranks of the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions.

One of the most remarkable innovations seems to be that the former Minister of Labour, Hans Katzer, apparently represented middle of the road members of the party in Mainz.

However unimportant people may think it is, he brought the sharpest and most memorable profile to the Opposition line-up and among the younger generation in the party he ranks along with Stoltenberg as the unquestioned leader of a modernisation plan for social welfare policies, which are the salient part of all Federal Republic policies on the domestic front.

To speak of a move to the left would be ill-advised. If there is a move in any direction it is a move away from worthy lesser nobility, the ducal, lord-of-the-manor thinking of the local party groups and cultural federalism, which suffered a setback in Mainz, in fact a defeat which was unfortunately overlooked to a great extent.

From this come not only consequences with regard to organisation.

Many details have been left in the dark and postponed until next years convention to discuss a party programme.

Once again it is Katzer and Stoltenberg who have tried to find an immediately practicable compromise between the enterprising CDU economic council and the committees on social welfare.

The CDU-led governments have been unable to crown with success any attempts to unite the two extreme groups.

In Opposition, however, the two divergent interests must be coordinated or fused together. The only alternative to this is total collapse and the rise of a regenerated FDP, right of centre.



Rainer Barzel (left) Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party, CDU chairman, Kurt Georg Kiesinger, and the CDU Secretary-General Bruno Heck at the party conference in Mainz (Photo: dpa)

In the face of the monumental difficulties facing the party Kiesinger's speech about the integrated middle of the road approach, which the CDU has to embody had a far too artificial, too verbose effect.

Heck's speech contained brilliant analyses but few conclusions. The CDU will no longer get by without making and enumerating some conclusions, without a degree of theoretical expertise and without political knowledge.

Without this, talk of making society more democratic and restructured (the difference is a nicety) remains empty talk.

Without this, lowering the minimum age for party membership from 18 to 16 years remains an empty gesture made for effect in the face of the general pre-natal tendency.

Kiesinger will have a tough time handling these problems, which are not in the nature of memoirs. Barzel will for the time being have the easiest task.

His strong group will help to give the government a sober insight into the question of inter-German relations, policy towards the East and finance policy.

But the parliamentary parade is still not what could be called a party strategy. The savoir faire of this group has a short lifetime. Afterwards there will be a lean period.

The road to victory passes through central organisation, central planning, central ideas and central strategy. Herbert Wehner has showed how to go about this.

Herbert Kremp

(DIE WELT, 20 November 1969)

CDU sets out to capture youth

With good reason all parties in the Bundestag are resolved to grant 18-year-olds the right to vote. With not so good, but understandable reasons, the majority of Christian Democrat delegates spoke out at the party conference in Mainz for the lowering of the minimum age for membership of the party from 18 to 16 years.

Obviously the party has been stricken with fear that young people could in future turn away from them in greater numbers than were noted at the last elections.

Bruno Heck said in Mainz that the younger generation could see contradictions in the CDU that would become manifest as soon as traditional notions had been confronted with the demands of the future.

The party has ploughed into the future still suffering from the traditions of the past. By undercutting the other parties on the question of minimum age for membership the CDU wishes to show its own youthfulness and at the same time win the favour of young people.

Why indeed not, it could be said? Is every party supposed to see how it will deal with its problems?

This wooing of a new generation for the party has only one snag: Once upon a time during the days of the Social Democrats class warfare the slogan was devised: "From the cradle to the grave."

In a society with large national parties it is not unthinkable that the age of joining a party should be fixed at a lower age than the age of franchise. Union with a party pre-supposes a certain amount of political experience.

Adult baptism is advantageous for parties. The CDU's efforts to boost membership is understandable. But their striving to take apprentices and fifth-formers into their ranks could have undesireable effects. Other parties ought to consider seriously what they are doing before they follow the Christian Democrats example of going flat out for a youthful image.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 November 1969)

Kurt Georg Kiesinger's future in the CDU

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The re-election of Kurt Georg Kiesinger as chairman of the Christian Democrats was not so certain as might have bee thought immediately before the party conference held in Mainz.

In extensive circles of the Christian Democratic Union and its electorate it was sensed that there was a certain aversion towards the former Federal *Chancellor. There was a clear expression* of this in the reduced number of votes which Kiesinger received in the election. This is emphasised when compared to the greater success of Gerhard Stoltenberg.

No one is going to deceive himself any more after the revolution in the party leadership at Mainz. Kiesinger still has time to spare. His party has granted him a two-year breathing-space.

They have done this out of respect for his continuing popularity, with a wary eye on the image of the CDU as reflected in public opinion and finally out of embarrassment.

The youngbloods pushing their way towards the top in the party and who will contest the leadership in two years' time have not yet had enough preparation to follow in the footsteps of Adenauer and Erhard. This means that chairman Kiesinger is being preserved as the party monument.

Some time ago prominent members of the CDU decided that after their dismissal from the government benches in the Bundestag the question of the party leadership should be put on ice for a certain transition period. Kiesinger may well be upset by this condescending attitude. He is sensitive. He does not have Adenauer's strong nerves.

At this very moment he is in need of a measured, justified respect of his whole political career.

Such respect does nothing to change political facts.

Chairman Kiesinger has been spared the condemnations that have been levelled against Secretary-General of the party Bruno Heck and most of the erstwhile representatives of the party leadership in the form of criticism and rebuffs.

This is an injustice to Bruno Heck. He is acting as the party's lightening conductor and can feel certain that no one will give him a vote of thanks. A great deal of reliance will be placed on him in the new development period in which the CDU will require a reformed leadership.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 November 1969)

■ PROFILE

Alex Möller and the principles of private industry

FEDERAL FINANCE MINISTER IN NEW COALITION GOVERNMENT

CHRIST UND WELT

"We have the right men." Of the men introduced to the voters under this slogan by the Social Democratic Party (SPD) Alex Möller, an honorary Doctor of Engineering, was in the forefront.

Anoyone concerned with financial policy in recent years must have expected Alex Möller to be the Federal Minister of Finance in a government led by Social Democrats.

And so the "comrade millionaire" has become Minister of Finance but his selection was not all that certain. During coalition talks there was the possibility that the Free Democrats (FDP) would occupy this economically important post fas longer than the public realised. Alex Möller would then have been given the alternative post of Federal Minister of Education and Science.

This speaks against the widespread identification of him with only financial and fiscal policy and shows the versatility of the former general director of the Karlsruhe Life Assurance Company. Those who saw him act as the "secret Prime Minister" of the Federal state of Baden-Württemberg before 1961 and those who knew his numerous part-time and honorary positions still have a lasting impression of this.

But in Bonn too the deputy leader of the parliamentary party showed that his *range covered far more than the financial* and fiscal sphere. For example it will sometime become more obvious than it has been up till now what discreet yet effective methods Alex Möller uses to gain and foster contacts with the East.

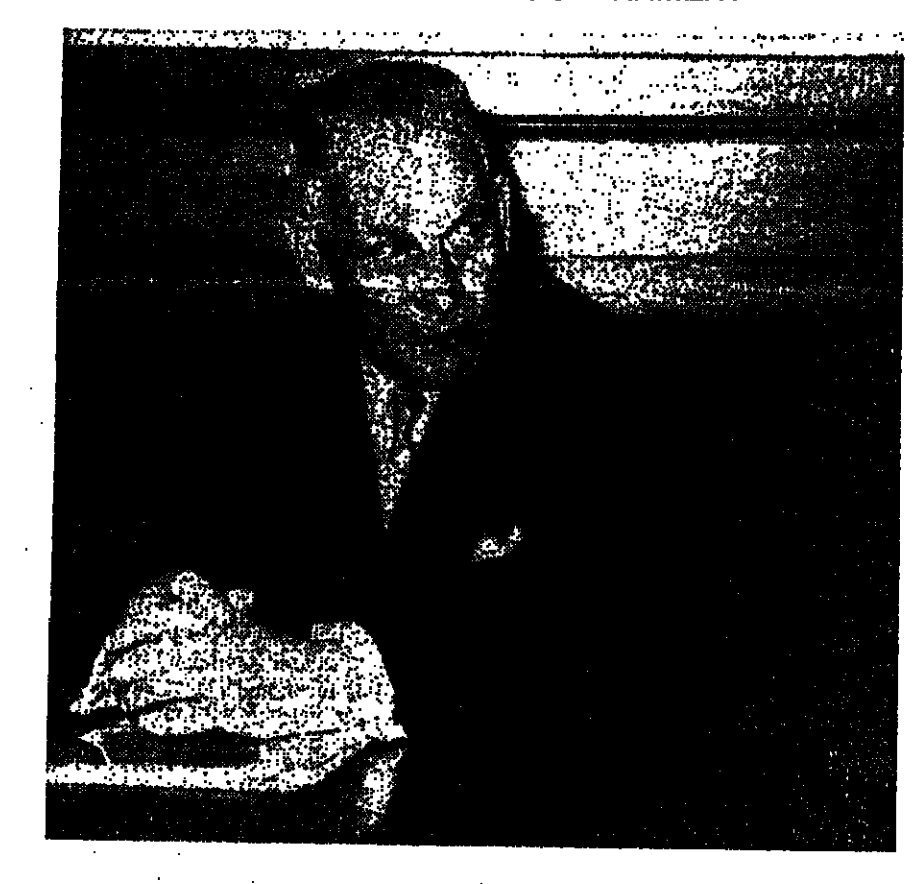
At 66 this passionate politician is the oldest member of the Brandt-Scheel Cabinet but he certainly does not have the least temperament and commitment. He can claim to have produced for the SPD in Bonn a clearly contoured respectable finance policy in good time. He is to be thanked that the SPD, while still in opposition during the fourth legislative period, developed in many respects a more perceptive financial policy than the coalition then governing and clearer insight into the demands of a stable financial economy orientated towards the future.

Since that time Bonn no longer doubts that it is advisable to listen carefully to Alex Möller's opinion and take note of as much as possible. His efforts for a reform of the financial constitution were therefore as important as his persistent demand to introduce mid-term financial planning to bring some order into Federal finances.

The fact that Alex Möller was a Social Democrat from the age of nineteen, worked his way up through the ranks and enjoys respect in both the party and the parliamentary faction may make it easier for him to pursue a hard financial policy.

Observers of financial events in Bonn will long remember how years ago he forced his parliamentary party to withdraw a whole pile of motions and bills that were financially indigestible. And it takes even more courage and loyalty to principles to bully his comrades out of advertising the fact that they had produced a financial policy— and this at the height of the recent elections to the Bundestag.

As Federal Minister of Finance he must already have seen that there must be compromises in government including financial policy. The test will come in the next few weeks and moths when he draws up the budget for 1970 and revises mid-term financial planning. There is no lack of temptation to leave the path of stability. The Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats left behind several risks in former financial planning. And the SPD/FDP coalition does not want to enter into additional obligations.



There are hardly any doubts that Alex Möller will stoutly defend financial stability against friend and foe. The yardstick therefore for his success or failure as Minister of Finance is whether he succeeds in planning the long overdue reform of fiscal law. In this sphere he obviously has to fight against the suspicion that he has an inclination towards ideas that are not exactly favourable towards the economy. But he still seems to have found some favour with the reform that the Council for Arts and Science submitted to the Ministry of Finance at the beginning of 1967, the "Memorandum for the Reform of direct Taxation in the Federal Republic".

There is also the first sign of efforts towards a reform that does not have fiscal features, and takes account of the justified interests of the economy. During the coalition discussions Alex Möller refused to look upon supplementary payment towards income and corporation tax as the active property of the state that could no longer be surrendered. This one example shows that the new Minister of Finance, a proven man of action, will foster cooperation with the Federal Minister of Economic Affairs in matters of economic and trade policy.

There will certainly be no lack of interest or temperament with Alex Möller as Minister of Finance and, moreover, as Cabinet member, Sparks can quickly fly in clashes with him. He can also be brusque and offhand, especially when his plans and ideas are met with contrary opinions that are all the more persistent for being justified.

He is a man of quick decision, disdaining the traditional style in Bonn and therefore often felt to be too harsh. One example is the speedy change in personnel in the Ministry of Finance with the retiring of the former State Secretary and four heads of department. Alex Möller wanted as quickly as possible a ministry that was capable of functioning at top gear according to his own ideas. Surprised by reaction, he did his best to soothe the pain and anger caused. Those who had known him for some time could have expected this.

But the Ministry must adapt itself to a new working style. Alex Möller describes it thus: "The principle of productivity demands knowledge, ability and also verve, strength of conviction, social understanding, an absence of consideration for a clique, solidarity and courage— the courage to dare and the courage to contradict. That is all I have to say about future personnel policy.

"The imminent structural changes in the Ministry should see that administration proceeds with as little friction as possible. Efforts towards decreasing losses caused by friction within the department and sphere of operation seems to me to be more sharply pronounced in the competition of private enterprise than in public administration. You may ascribe it to my enterprising ambition that I pay particular attention to this sphere from the very beginning and urge you to be vigilant and critical and not least self-critical.

"An expedient organisation is only the precondition for a rational work method. The manifestations of an expedient working style are:

* a far-reaching delegation of authority,
* close cooperation between experts,
* an independent oral and written report from advisers,
* a sensible limitation to essentials at all levels.

"Entries in several files do not change the world and the number and length of ministerial bills do not prove the proficiency of officials. I can do without any bit of paper that is tailored to the need of the writer to remind the heads of the ministry of his existence. In the same vein I have little sympathy for considerations of prestige. You will surely agree with me when I say that the importance of a person is not dependent on the number of people under him and the importance of a department is not dependent on the number of its subdepartments or advisers. When these few remarks on personnel policy, organisation and working method I would like to quash destructive unrest and at the same time create beneficial unrest and, whatever happens, bring about clarity and sweep away any traditional misunderstandings. I expect everybody to express his opinions and propose measures frankly and deliberately and these must not be based on hazy notions."

Klaus Bernhardt

(CHRIST UND WELT, 14 November 1969)

(Photo: dpa)



Alex Möller needs help

Since the formation of the new government we have a new Federal Finance Minister. His tasks, though are not at all new but rather old.

Since Franz Etzel announced the principle that Federal finances must be driven to the edge of a deficit so that sensible financial measures would come about of their own accord— this was when Konrad Adenauer was Chancellor— Finance Ministers here have had to take care that they did not go over the edge of the deficit and fall into the abyss of confusion.

Heinz Starke managed to control the tide but then Rolf Dahlgrün fell into the abyss. Franz Josef Strauss, with the Grand Coalition of Christian and Social Democrats behind him, managed to keep things running smoothly to a certain extent. But only to a certain extent as the new Minister of Finance, Alex Möller, is already talking of his financial legacy,

There are indeed frightening debits in the Federal budget. As speaker for the Opposition, Franz Josef Strauss recently stated that they amounted to 5,000 million Marks that had to be added to the 2,000 million he had bequeathed. That is 7,000 million in all. This does not mean that the Federal government only has 7,000 million Marks of debt to cover. To this figure must be added the increased expenditure provided for in the mid-term financial planning.

What is new? First of all there is compensation to agriculture as a result of the revaluation of the Mark amounting to 1,700 million Marks. Then there is the Tax Revision Law in 1970 which will double the untaxable basic to 480 Marks a year and also the first stage in the reduction of supplementary payments. This means for the Federal government alone 520 million Marks in 1970 and as much as 1,250 million in 1971.

Then comes the improvement of payments to war victims, only a part of which is covered in financial planning, the increase of salaries of those working in the public services together with a special payment of 300 Marks for 1969. Only a negligible part of this could be included in planning estimates.

On top of this come additional payments for this country's agricultural policy, at least 500 million Marks, an intensification of the road-building programme and also that of hospitals— another 500 million— additional demands from the Common Market agricultural capital— the exact amount has not yet been calculated— currency exchange adjustments with the United States and higher demands from Nato, neither of which have been covered in financial planning. Perhaps Strauss was not far wrong when he quoted the figure of 5,000 million Marks.

On the other hand it cannot be denied that growth in trade has been quicker and

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■ CENTREPIECE

Walter Arendt - the new Minister of Labour

CHRIST UND WELT

For the first time in the history of the Federal Republic the head of a powerful trade union has taken over the Ministry of Labour.

The effects of this move are still difficult to interpret at the moment. Has the union secured for itself a place in the government or is the government trying to get the union on to a lead? Both sides will probably have had their reasons but these are now confusedly intermingled.

Walter Arendt, up to now Chairman of the Union of Mining and Power Workers, believes in two things, the central social function of the unions and the future of coal.

These two factors are undoubtedly too narrow a basis for a socialist politician at the beginning of the seventies. The time is long past when this Ministry dealt with nothing other than labour administration.

The Ministry of Labour has meanwhile developed into a ministry responsible for social welfare and it has come to determine social welfare policy, or at least the door has been opened in this direction.

Social welfare policy is more than labour policy as it is concerned with the structure of all society. It must deal with farmers and the self-employed in exactly the same way as workers dependent on employers. There is then some basis for the question of whether Walter Arendt is the right man for this important function.

Arendt's experience in the Ruhr will admittedly have taught him that social welfare policy is a policy of adaptability and professional mobility. This conception is not rooted in his ideology but has grown from his own pragmatic experience. He was recently heard to say, "If you want to pursue a flexible professional policy then something must be done about the accumulation of wealth. Otherwise everything will go wrong."

A classical social politician could have come to this conclusion. This view distinguishes him from other trade union leaders. The powerful leader of the Union for Public Services and Transport, Heinz Kluncker, considers accumulation of wealth to be a capitalist subterfuge that is of no use to the employee and is suited only to cement old social structures.

The new Minister of Labour is not yet 45 but looks as if he is in his late fifties. He is a miner through and through and was born in Heessen near Hamm. His father before him was a miner and died at the age of 54 from silicosis. At the beginning of the War Walter Arendt was fifteen and became a mining apprentice at the Sachsen pit. After two years of apprenticeship he became a soldier and when he returned home from a prisoner-of-war camp the whole of the Ruhr was in ruins. At that time the job of miner was the most highly regarded in the country and was promoted the most.

Arendt's union career began in 1947. He attended the Labour Academy in Frankfurt and the Communal Economy Academy in Hamburg. It was the unions that offered him the education that society had, as he thought, denied him. This is the basis of Arendt's trade union philosophy.

After working in the press office of the Mining and Power Workers Union Arendt was elected to the union executive in 1955 when he was thirty. As editor of the union newspaper he had a tool with which he could realise his ideas.

In 1961 he entered the Bundestag as the Social Democrat member of the constituency of Gelsenkirchen and also became a member of the European Parliament in Strasbourg. In 1964 he succeeded Heinrich Guthermuth and with 294 votes out of three hundred became Chairman of the miners union. When the same number of votes confirmed him in his office in 1968 old Gutermuth reacted sourly and said, "Walter did not deserve that."

Walter Arendt has always worked cautiously, without emotion and with an eye on his goal. He is a quick thinker and his reactions are never unconsidered. He speaks the language of his miners. With a courageous word at the right time he has managed to control a lot of escalated situations.

He knows exactly what he wants. As soon as he was elected head of the miners' union he threw on to the table of the mining employers the biggest wage demand that there had ever been. The employers rubbed their eyes. With his eye on Bonn he has said from the very beginning, "What we need is a clear policy on power. Fine words do not help us any." This was directed against Bonn.

In spite of all his hardness his flexibility cannot be disputed. "Not every pit must be kept open and when we reach the time in the future when nobody needs to go down to the coalface to chop away at the coal then we should all go into church and pray as this would be a step forward for humanity."

He is optimistic about the future of the pits on future power policy. If around 7,000 million people were living in the year 2000 with the standard of living of the USA of today the world would need power corresponding to 24,000 million tons of coal a year. Mining today produces only 2,000 million tons. Because of this Arendt says, "We need all types of power. If there were no coal to regulate the market the price of power would today lie far above the present level."

Arendt led this country's mining industry over the summit of structural change. There was no socialisation in the traditional sense. But the new joint organisation Ruhrkohle has a double character. Owners received compensation as is only right in a constitutional state and the Ruhrkohle company (its private nature guaranteed by the State) has a complex of worker participation on a scale that has not been known before. That is a personal success for Walter Arendt. It can be said with certainty that the new Minister of Labour will be the advocate of worker participation in Brandt's Cabinet.

Walter Arendt can fall back on his predecessor's great successes when he starts his work. Continued payment of wages has been taken care of and pension insurance has been given an overhaul— as long as people do not now raise senseless objections. The Labour Promotion Law has opened up modern paths for labour policy and some progress has been made with professional training. One of Hans Kather's main achievements was the social welfare budget that can now be further expanded. Social policy will thus be made calculable.

One problem remaining is the reform of the sickness insurance law. Arendt's predecessors have all burnt their fingers on this issue. But there are other tricky questions, for example the improvement of the position of employees organised in trades unions. Arendt's position here is clear.

The essence of social policy and charges is for him not only a question of deciding what the rates and charges are to be. He does not think much of ideology. When asked whether workers, especially miners were still as exploited today as the extra-parliamentary opposition claims, Arendt answered, "Looking at the issue ideologically the Socialist Students' Union (SDS) may be right for all I care. But life is short and immediate success is what counts."

This success means that workers can drive cars, go on holidays, receive holiday pay and work a five-day week. Arendt does not think that the extra-parliamentary opposition and the SDS will find much response among the working population. He also does not believe that there is a need for the illusion of workers' governments on a Soviet model.

Of course neither workers nor unions are opposed to students. As he announced when he heard of the decision of the Trades Union Congress executive not to allow student speakers in 1968, "Anybody from this side who for instance interferes with May Day celebrations must know what he is doing... Since 1890 there have been May Day celebrations without student speakers. And I believe that workers still know best today what they have to do in their own interests and how to carry this out." On top of this he considered the introduction of continued payment of wages to be more important than student reform. He has never made a secret of this.

But his trauma is obviously the thought that force and counterforce used in social clashes could escalate into increasingly larger riots and excesses, resulting in a swing to the right. On the day of the government policy statement he said to a small circle of acquaintances, "What do you think will happen in such a situation if extremist intellectuals were to incite the agitated working population? I saw the extent of the unrest in Paris. Those who went around wrecking everything still carried a tricolore with them. But here there will be nothing to cling to."

Antonius John

(CHRIST UND WELT, 7 November 1969)

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Continued from page 4

stronger than foreseen in the last programme of financial planning in Autumn 1968. Income tax receipts have shown a corresponding trend. But it is not yet known if they will keep pace with the demands on expenditure.

Today a Federal Minister of Finance cannot restrict himself to seeing that the books balance, as important as this is. The direction of financial policy must also be correct. And this would be a convenient time to mention two aspects that seem to have been quickly forgotten by old parliamentarians and many of the new Federal Ministers.

The first aspect is the bounden legal duty of the Federal government, Federal states and local authorities to adjust financial policy to the needs of trade and follow the policy of aggregate distribution of finances that Minister of Economic Affairs, Karl Schiller, is always talking about.

But the question must be asked how a Minister of Finance can actively participate in aggregate distribution when every Mark he receives is immediately snatched away from him, leaving him no time at all to ponder whether it would be better not to surrender it.

The great expenditure programme facing Alex Möller does not contain anything that can be scratched immediately from the budget. The overriding proportion of expenditure consists of the long-term legal obligations that the Federal government enters into.

The second aspect that has been forgotten is the just demand— long recognised by all sides— on the finances of the Federal government, the Federal states and local authorities to limit the amount of running expenses in favour of capital investments on which so much of our future depends.

A look at the list of additional wishes will reveal little that is of use in improving our infra-structure, making provision for public services and forming our future as a community.

The opposite is true. Consumption will continue to rage if the legislature were to decide on everything that is now on the desk of the Finance Minister. To put it drastically, because of the need for immediate effect and short-term social satisfaction those investments about which Ludwig Erhard philosophised as early as 1964 with his Federal Republic Cooperative Work would not meet with great success.

Perhaps it would be unjust to lay at Alex Möller's door something that the Grand Coalition did not manage to achieve in two programmes of financial policy: to clear away from the budget all the ballast of expenditure that we can less and less afford in the second half of this century.

What was only half successful in the first programme of financial planning in 1967 failed almost completely in the autumn of 1968. In 1968 plans were made right down to the last Pfennig that might come in. Perhaps this is what Möller meant when he spoke of a legacy. Now it is his turn to administer the department. Nobody should jump on him if he shows severity and rigour in his post.

Hans Feuerlein

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 November 1969)

THE ARTS

Cultural activities abroad take on a new lease of life

CHRIST UND WELT
Deutsche Wochenzeitung

In general the balance is in the black. The Federal Republic's culture abroad policy has expanded and it is no longer the poor relation of the Foreign Office but is termed in official language as one of the three pillars of foreign policy, taking up its position together with actual policy and foreign trade.

This is all the more reason for unease at the low financial ceiling that allows little margin for fresh initiatives.

Of the 700 million Marks of the Foreign Office's budget 250 million, a good third, is allotted to culture. But this favourable relationship is deceptive. Of this total 220 million Marks are spoken for at the very beginning. 100 millions are used for the maintenance and extension of the 260 schools abroad run by the Federal Republic, fifty million for the 117 Goethe Institutes and further millions for the Academic Exchange Programme, the Humboldt Foundation and Inter Nationes.

The remaining thirty million is allotted to topical activities. Almost everyday suggestions and important proposals have to be turned down.

Cuts have to be made in a sphere were there should be expansion. The number of foreign scholarships is being reduced in stages.

The annual growth in the foreign culture budget is deceptive. An increase of four, five or six per cent is immediately swallowed up by increasing world-wide inflation. The rise is scarcely enough to maintain existing establishments.

Financial calamity forms the grey spots in the otherwise colourful fabric referred to by Luitpold Werz recently when he left Bonn after three years as director of the cultural department of the Foreign Office. He is returning to the diplomatic service as ambassador to the Argentine Republic.

Diplomat Luitpold Werz succeeded Dieter Sattler who for the seven previous years expanded the boundaries of cultural work with all the élan of a creative artist. The Werz era that has now ended also came out of the affair with a respectable balance.

The appointment of a successor to Luitpold Werz in the "House of a thousand windows" in Bonn is one of the first decisions on personnel that Walter Scheel had to make after his entry into the Foreign Office.

Many names came up for consideration, even, extravagantly, that of Günter Grass who did not want to become a civil servant however and is more interested in development aid than in foreign culture policy.

The best solution seemed to be Erwin Wickert, a man who knows the ropes in the civil service and the ministry and yet has at the same time the reputation of an *homme de lettres* among diplomats of the Federal Republic. Wickert is at present an envoy in London and unavailable for the time being. Ambassador Blankenhorn is leaving and the first and second men at the embassy cannot be released at the same time. It seems as though Luitpold Werz' successor will be Hans Schwarzmann, head of protocol and a man that Walter Scheel favours.

Like Sattler Welz too did a lot towards turning cultural department from a dead-end into an attractive field of activity. It demands not pale officials but people who are particularly qualified for the position. If they have not been kissed by the muse then they must have at least been caressed by it. In the larger embassies cultural attaches are given a higher rank to strengthen their frequently subdued consciousness.

It will now be seen what can be accomplished in this sphere by Professor Rolf Dahrendorf who, as Walter Scheel's parliamentary state secretary, will take control of matters concerning foreign culture policy.

This decision may have been more of a move to give Professor Dahrendorf, a sociologist from Constance, a starting position that would not be all that strange to him in the unknown territory of foreign affairs.

By creating a central office for schools abroad in Cologne the culture department has freed itself of the burden of non-ministry functions. But the federalisation of education in this country makes it difficult to recruit teachers for schools abroad. The central authority is involved in a tiring process of borrowing them from the educational authorities of the eleven Federal States.

Almost all of this country's schools abroad are bursting at the seams and can scarcely take in all the newly enrolled children from the host country. A report recently arrived at the Foreign Office claims that the father of a newly born child in Lima went to the crowded German school before registering the birth at the registry office so that his son could be admitted when the time came.

The outlook for German as an international language is not unpromising. In spite of the collapse of German prestige after the War it has the chance of taking up third or fourth position among international languages together with English, French, Spanish and Russian.

The demand for teachers of German is increasing by leaps and bounds, especially in Africa, but also in Latin America. Interest in the German language has waned in America. Today it takes up its position behind French and Spanish. Even more surprising is the sharp decline in Italy, a country flooded by tourists from the Federal Republic.

German is still the lingua franca of Eastern European countries. It is the language used among Rumanians, Czechs, Bulgarians and Hungarians when they wish to make themselves understood to one another. This provides a broad basis for increasing the teaching of German — even more so in the Soviet Union where about eight million people are learning the language (though admittedly without Bonn's assistance)!

Political differences do not prevent the brisk cultural exchanges with the countries of the Eastern bloc and especially the Soviet Union although there are official cultural agreements with only Rumania and Yugoslavia.

Karajan's appearances in the Soviet Union were a great success and the exhibition of architecture that toured the Russian cities attracted more than 700,000 visitors.

Since the Arab states broke off diplomatic ties with the Federal Republic culture policy together with trade is the only way through the wilderness.

Today people in Bonn are praising the liberalness of foreign culture policy that depicts the Federal Republic in a critical, realistic light and does not look through rose tinted spectacles. Income tax goes towards sending authors, artists and professors from this country on foreign tours where they can merrily attack the Federal government. This can continue to the role of court jester and, seen in this light, has its limits.

(CHRIST UND WELT, 7 November 1969)

Experimental short films shown in Brunswick

Experimental short films were given for three evenings in Brunswick. The historical part and the modern up to the *Christmas Tree*, a conquest of Christmas by the Austrian Muehl, were shown in the main assembly hall of the technical university. The action programme on the other hand had to move to the hall of the academy of formative arts.

The floor was the only place for people to sit. Speedily emptied beer bottles, cigarette ends and spent matches soon gave the hall an aura of a seedy beat club. But the third evening did see very action and it was thought of as the climax.

The furthest back into the history of the short film that the organisers went was George Melies' *Conquering the North Pole*, shot in 1912.

Also shown of course were the kinetic experiment with light of the constructivist era by Hans Richter and Moholy-Nagy, some of which had their origin in Hanover.

Un Chien andalou by Luis Bunuel (1928) and *Entre'act* produced by René Clair in 1924 also vied for the loud approval of the young audience. If it was obvious that Salvatore Dali had helped Bunuel with the scenario then the Dadaist Francis Picavia could be clearly seen at the side of Clair, or Claire as he then was.

The discoveries and developments in camera work during those years and later were reflected in splintered form in the contemporary short films shown. The shutter is supreme, blank film, arrangements that are known to be temporary and fear of perfect or even imaginative camera work. There is *nothing* technically now.

It is primarily the Austrians who made a fetish of using a fixed camera. On the cutting table the transitions, speeded up parts and still photographs are joined, everyday noises are added and passed off as music. It is as if the whole idea were to destroy Hollwood, a sensible and liberating aim perhaps for the American Underground movement.

The different ways in which the movements of the human body can be treated was demonstrated by the Japanese contribution *Al-Love* by Limura who uses a magnifying glass to examine parts of the bodies of two lovers and develops pictures of a strange, unique charm.

Here too Man was the subject though not in the same way as in the action films of Kren, Hein and Muehl's *Material*, directed in an orgy of colour and showing modern Sade demonstrations.

On the third evening Limpe and Paul Fuchs went into action. After an esoteric musical performance with "the only qualified female drummer" they appeared naked on stage just as the Lord created them in front of the audience and the filmscreen. While the film *Anima Anima*, the main part of Experimenta III which caused such a controversy on Norddeutscher Rundfunk's third television channel, was being shown they appeared in person in front of the animated screen that was offering the skilfully cut scenes of their films on variations in copulation.

In this type of experimental festival the selection of films must naturally have gaps. In the most cases this is not caused by a selection committee who are not sufficiently well up on the subject. Material is too diverse and always on the move. It is therefore pointless to record what is missing. The programme offered was logical.

But it would be as well to pay some consideration to the question of whether Limpe's and Paul Fuchs' live displays were or could be a step towards total film or even towards a total art form.

A.F. Teschemacher

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 November 1969)

British art show on tour

Onnasch cleared his gigantic gallery. Seventeen British artists have now moved into space once occupied by modern artists from Macke to Wesselman. They carry on their banner light and movement, kinetic and kinematic art.

The exhibition, supported by the London Art Information Registry, will first be shown in Berlin before going to Gelsenkirchen in December.

Established artists in this exhibition are Peter Sedoley, Denek Boshier and Bridget Riley. The most attractive work is Sedgeley's *Video Disc*, a rotating disc with patterns of flourescent colours which move at different speeds resulting in striking optical processes. These discs can now be obtained as multiples.

Younger exhibitors are also present beside established artists. Keith Brocklehurst cannot be missed. His three plastic pillars are about nine feet high and rise and fall according to a programmed ninety minute rhythm. Barry Martin's rotating, reflecting discs and Steve Willat's twisting objects are also run by motors.

But this is far from being the most interesting part of the exhibition. A framework of light, larger than a human being, caused a great furore. When a person passes through the framework the flourescent tubes dependent on selenium cells change their colour. Minimal art then receives that little bit of action needed for its minimal existence.

Related to this experiment is a three-ray electronic installation created by the team of Philip Vaughan and Roger Dainton. The fibreglass cross is permeated by coloured light. The result is the hint of an artificial play along the lines of a real play.

Most of the kinetic art and works depending on light exhibited in Berlin (including Stuart Brisley and Bill Culbert as well as those artists already mentioned) have contemporary equivalents. These ideas are too common for exclusiveness to be possible. Even Tim Armstrong's impressive *Panoramagramme*, coloured silk-screens behind frosted glass that change all the time visitors file past, is neither new or unique.

There are still constructive artists who have an inclination towards op-art. Bridget Riley, Jeffrey Steele, Alan Green and Richard Allen are numbered among them. Subtlety of arrangement, composition and direction are the trumps played by individuals. All in all, the survey was amusing, entertaining and well assembled.

Lucie Schauer

(DIE WELT, 10 November 1969)

OPERA

'Julius Caesar' with Joan Sutherland in Hamburg

She came, she sang, she conquered. Scarcely had the great John Sutherland sung a note than the audience in Hamburg was won over to her.

In fact with tickets costing up to 96 Marks and people queueing to buy them the victory was won before she had even set foot on stage. This is some measure of the interest which people in Hamburg have shown to one of the greatest voices of the century.

Rolf Liebermann, manager of the Hamburg Staatsoper, has pulled off one of his greatest coups in bringing this sensational soprano to his stage. Liebermann has presented at the Staatsoper a number of adverturous productions but none of them have, so far, amounted to much musically.

Apart from this, however, there was a great deal of polish. This was opera with all the turgid mediocrity of interpretation swept away. This was opera for the Hanseatic way of life. This is opera with its intellectual side. It is only necessary to think of Peter Ustinov's "Magic Flute" or Erny Meyen's production of Rossini's "Barber of Seville" to realise how a dream budget can be turned to great creative use.

This was the woman who conquered, "La Stupenda", this marvellous soprano, the dramatic coloratura soprano from Australia, Joan Sutherland. She has firmly established her reputation as a perfectionist on innumerable long-playing records. She is known as an interpreter of parts that are fantastic, striking, incredible.

She was now ventured on to a stage in this country for the first time. Can she maintain the reputation she has gained from her records?

She can. She can do it but not without the help of a sympathetic audience and with the unrestrained support of a cast that functions with the perfection of well-oiled machinery.

And there is something else astounding about this production. Although this performance of the rarely to be seen Handel opera "Julius Caesar" is built round Miss Sutherland's perfection and her reputation which brings the house down at her first entry, during the course of the opera's three and a half hour duration other impressions are gained.

Despite having to perform opposite such a once-in-a-lifetime voice as Joan Sutherland's Huguette Tourangeau, Ursula Boese and Lucia Popp command attention.

Despite the overpowering talents of all the singers on stage, the minute details of Tito Capobianco's staging and the precise, controlled musical direction of Richard Bonynge are worthy of being noticed.

Not only the diva triumphed. The whole evening was an extreme example of musical glitter and glamour.

It would be foolish to think of this occasion as part and parcel of a twentieth century Handel renaissance.

If Handel's princely art were to be revived it would have to be in the full glory of the original, and true princely opulence.

Any wishy-washy, half-hearted attempts would only lead to unbearable boredom, frustration and discontent.

La Stupenda and those around her, however, made the impossible come true and brought to life what is today anachronistic: opera as a total expression of beautiful voices, as show, as glitter and glamour.

This was the apotheosis of irreality, a kind of cultural industry, and the audience can be glad that it saw something so unique, so different.

If this was the funeral procession of a dead art-from then it was a most magnificent "send-off" for a most impressive corpse. The mourners were the best in the World and the "funeral dirge" consisted of Miss Sutherland immaculate acrobatics along the complicated melodic line of Handel's refined music.

At first the opera seemed to suffer from a dullness of timbre, a well-directed dynamic understatement straight out of the recording studio. But this quickly died away in the course of the performance.

Apart form Joan Sutherland's rendering of Cleopatra it was above all Huguette Tourangeau's Ceasar that showed breathtaking voice control. This primadonna is just reaching the peak of her career. She approached her part with an amazing freshness of interpretation and a ceaseless reserve of the purest notes in every register.

Her low notes were superb. Where others leave off Tourangeau begins. Notes which other contraltos can not reach are caressed and given noble sonority by Miss Tourangeau.

This was the sensation of the opera, apart from the tremendous way Joan Sutherland lived up to the greatest expectations of her. After this performance Miss Tourangeau will have a similarly great reputation.

Since many of the major parts in Handel operas were written for castrati many of the male roles in the Hamburg production were sung by women.

Cvetka Ahlin gave an elegant interpretation of Ptolemy. Lucia Popp played Sextus with unique flair. Her arias were sung with perfect breath control.

Ursual Boese sang the contralto part, Cornelia, with deep insight.

Alongside this female domination the men's parts sung by Tom Krause, Heinz Blankenburg and Franz Grundheber had little to say.

This feast of great voices, however, was not the only touch of greatness on this memorable evening, although it was



the dominant factor in the biggest opera occasion in Hamburg for some time.

Tito Capobianco's staging gave the production a background which simply could not be ignored. Ming Cho Lee designed sets of graceful wooden scaffolding with fragments of Renaissance style amid which Capobianco made the characters move with Baroque elegance of gesture, with courtly bows and courtseys and dancing strides.

The pathos was nver direct, but always stylised. Stiff expressive movements always effused the perfection of art, but art of a marionette-like sort.

The characters gave the impressions of being animated statues, which only recited and declaimed their emotions. This was firmly maintained throughout the lengthy course of the play.

Richard Bonynge was a tireless trier as he conducted the Philharmonisches Staatsorchester. His constant endeavour was never to let a moment of musical tension slip by.

"Julius Caesar" will go into the annals of Hamburg opera as one of the greatest moments the city has known. This cast will be heard in all ten times in the course of the next two months.

Hans-Klaus Jungheinrich

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 November 1969)

Joan Sutherland as Cleopatra and Huguette Tourangeau as Caesar in Handel's 'Julius Caesar' (Photo: Fritz Peyer)

West Berlin swings for The Duke's seventieth birthday

Trumpeter Miles Davis has said that one day all the jazz musicians in the world should get together and on their knees give thanks to Duke Ellington.

Berlin devoted its festival exclusively to the Duke. Four days and four nights the fires of the greatest jazz caravan burned bright in the Berlin Philharmonic. The hundreds of musicians, soloists and groups playing in various styles each brought their tribute to Duke Ellington.

Concern at whether it was sensible or not to produce a whole music festival in the most living and lively of all modern musical forms and dedicate this whole festival to one name was quickly swept away.

What Cecil Taylor and Joachim Kühn and their quartet played at the opening concert was the avant garde's deference before the master.

Taylor's music was highly intense and very loud. *Kühn's Suite to our Father, Duke* and a great deal of charm with some excellent piano-playing and a great deal of humour which is a permissible part of Free Jazz.

The first high-light was Thelonius Monk. He played *Piano for Duke* unaccompanied alone on the stage. The 'Saint' of bebop with the goatee beard played Ellington's melodies with formality. Never before had they been played so hard and so uncompromisingly. Monk's playing seemed in constant danger of getting entangled in itself or breaking off. But the end result was Monk's asymmetry and polyrythm. This belonged to the most fascinating pieces to be heard at the Jazz Festival.

Earlier on Joe Turner had swung well-knows Ellington themes in the style of an accomplished bar pianist. Steve Kuhn had Bill Evans rather than Duke Ellington in mind and only fleeting passages of his long pieces were pleasing.

The Dave Pike Group which has won itself the reputation of best Federal Republic combo in recent years and as such is rather over-rated had experience and elegance to offer, but there were weaknesses when Hans Rettenbacher and Peter Baumeister on double bass and drums disturbed the tempo.

Then came Miles Davis with his new quintet. For the first time this highly rated modern jazz musician got away from the bop idea of coupling trumpet and tenor saxophone. The electric piano provides the idea background for the wind instruments and determines the tonal colour. In this way Miles David and his saxophonist Wayne Shorter produced improvisations with a degree of maturity and melodic beauty which can have few parallels in the history of jazz.

Shorter seemed to be completely imbused with the Coltrane style, particularly when playing soprano saxophone. David has scarcely ever been heard playing so agressively. He gave abrupt changes of tempo which at the crucial moment were transformed into sensuous lyricism. But this was quickly brought back to boiling point.

Miles and Monk were the high points and made up for disappointments from other quarters.

This year's concert was quite different from last years with works by Wahren, Blarr and Daumer. Stan Kenton played with a Berlin Dream Band whose sax line-up when playing together or solo never matched up to the demands of the maestro of progessive jazz. Kenton's badly chosen programme was greeted with cat-calls and the rows in the Berlin Philharmonic emptied. Why the routine performance on the next evening by the Newport All-Stars was greeted with boos but applause remains one of those eternal mysteries of the unpredicatable Berlin public. On this occasion there was little Pop. Only Burnin Red Ivanhoe, Sarah Vaughan and good old Lionel Hampton who was playing jazz-rock thirty years ago were on offer. But all concerts had been sold out for weeks.

Needless to say the Duke's own concert tickets sold like hot cakes. On the Saturday evening the time-honoured Big Band leader appeared in person with his all-star line-up, good-humoured, full of charm and freshness celebrating in a masterly way.

Accompanied by Wild Bill Davis and a beaming Duke at the piano he played the most beautiful solos of the whole Festival.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 11 November 1969)

■ EDUCATION

Decline in number of engineering students

STUDENT REPLACEMENTS DO NOT SATISFY PROFESSIONAL DEMANDS

Handelsblatt

Only eight students from the Federal Republic and from abroad started to study metallurgy at the Technical University of Berlin in the winter semester of 1968/69 and the summer semester of 1969. In the last ten years the number of students of metallurgy in the universities of Aachen, Berlin and Clausthal has dropped from 1,508 to 639.

The number of students who complete their studies has sunk to proportions that do not go anywhere near satisfying the demand for replacements in this country's iron and steel industry. And because of the increasing technical and economic demands of metallurgy the need for new metallurgists is expected to remain the same if not increase still further.

Among the engineering disciplines metallurgy is a special though by no means unique case. In spite of the fact that the number of pupils taking their school-leaving examinations has risen the proportion of those who want to go on to study the engineering sciences has decreased in the past few years – and not only relatively but overall.

The third Federal report on research was submitted to the Bundestag this summer by the Federal Minister of Scientific Research. It indicates that there has been an eight per cent decrease in the number of students from this country in the engineering disciplines – the total sank from 34,647 to 31,983 – while the number of students in all other fields have either risen steeply or at least remained constant.

The results of a representative survey by the Ruhr Information Service showed that only around six per cent of school-leavers of both sexes interviewed in the summer of 1969 wanted to become engineers.

There could be many reasons for this trend. It could be that the great technological developments of the past few years have led people to believe that little of great importance can be accomplished in this field at present.

It may be that the decline in the number of students of engineering has frightened off would-be students as they think that something must be wrong with the subject.

Another factor of importance must be the nineteenth century humanistic ideal of education that still places little value on science and technology in our highly industrialised society.

But apart from inadequate education in mathematics and the sciences perhaps the reason is lack of information and insufficient introduction into the world of technology at that age when genuine plans for a profession or course of further education take shape. In short there is a lack of careers advice in the Federal Republic.

For some years the Federal Labour Insitute in Nuremberg and the exchanges in all big towns have provided excellent information material, held lectures on careers and given individual advice in an effort to show the many possibilities of choice of profession and the possible ways to enter the working world that does claim most of our life.

But labour administration is not alone is its opinion that a lecture at the end of a pupil's school life, that is in the ninth class of the Volksschule, the sixth class of the Realschule or the highest grade in a grammar school, can hardly be adequate. This lecture and the information material that goes with it are no more than a menu from which the pupil will choose what he is already acquanted with in some way.

Most young people look at the multitude of jobs available as they would at a Chinese menu. They need advice or, and this is perhaps better, suitable preparation for the choice. This preparation would be achieved by starting career advice at the age of twelve as a continous introduction to the variours spheres of professional life. There would be lectures to give a general survey, books, pamphlets and practical views but the primary ingredient would be discussions on all the courses open to the pupil.

At present there is no careers advice of this sort.. To be heretical, it is still more important for us today to interprot the undoubtedly marvellous *Roman Spring* of Conrad Ferdihand Meyer or perhaps even *Threepenny Opera* or *Dog Years*. But we are so involved in these parts of our education – necessary as they certainly are – that we forget the necessities of practical life.

If a fifth-former is asked how iron and steel are obtained from iron ore he comes out – if we are lucky – with the description from his chemistry book which perhaps gives the latest technological state of 1890 and the production figures for 1952. In general he doesn't know and is also not interested; he cannot explain how semi-conductors work, nor a fully-automated textile machine. Action is necessary here. This does not mean that Conrad Ferdinand Meyer should be thrown overboard and additional lessons arranged. It is sufficient for pupils to have a varied sociology course and write a German essay on careers from time to time.

The iron and steel industry will not only help studies with financial aid but inform pupils about the profession of metallurgist with pamphlets and films. In the near future the highest classes of grammar schools and Realschulen will be invited to visit works that will show them a little of the tecnology and a lot about the economic and social relations in a factory and let them see that a modern developing industry needs young people as engineers to develop new ideas for the future in which they want to live.

Jürgen Ris

(Handelsblatt, 7 November 1969)

4,350 new medical students

A total of 4,750 new students were admitted to medical studies in the summer semester of 1969 and the winter semester of 1969/70.

These figures were announced by the Parliamentary Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Education and Science, Klaus von Dohnanyi, during question time in the Bundestag.

In this context he said that the urgent aim of the government's education and science policy was the introduction of measures to abolish limitation on admissions.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 6 November 1969)

Dangers of TV viewing for children

Television in the Federal Republic has become a sort of an electronic grandmother. Sitting in front of the television screen, children are threatened by complaints that are in no way consistent with their age. Epilepsy, troubled sleep and circulatory complaints up to the point of collapse are not rarely an indirect result of squatting for hours in front of the television screen. This is a harsh accusation.

The Evangelical Academy at Loccum has put television on trial or, to be more exact, has put on trial what flashes across the screen before and after children's television. Parents too are accused. They less frequently discuss whether they should watch television but more and more how long their offspring might be allowed to watch the entertainments on the screen.

Watching television is more common with boys than girls. This was discovered by Professor Schottmayer, an educationalist at the University of Hamburg. He attributes this fact primarily to what is broadcast. Programmes are more suitable for boys. Professor Schottmayer ascertained that the length of time spent watching television and the intelligence of the viewer are closely connected in children too. Grammar school pupils see least television and those at special schools the most.

Professor Nitsch, chief doctor at a children's hospital in Hanover, painted a gloomypicture of the effects of television on children. Of the five to six thousand children who pass through the hospital every year five suffer from television epilepsy and one from alterations in the function of the bloodstream through the brain caused by the flickering light.

It was shown at Loccum that scientists in the Federal Republic are indeed dealing with the medical results of watching television. But there has been little examination of the effects of aggression on a child's mind. There has also been no discussion up to now on crime on television which is subject to the law "Goodies win and crime does not pay" and its effect on children.

"There remains the memory of the commanding effect of a karate blow." At this point, at the latest, scientific investigations must deal with more than the short term effect. Years of investigation must help to track down aggression.

The television programme must be arranged responsibly. This demands a critical consciousness from the television stations and the producers themselves.

Schools and teachers should also pay more attention to television. School television from the very first school year could make a great contribution to taking out the enchantment from television.

Parents should feel themselves obliged to look at certain programmes with their children and discuss them afterwards.

(Hannoversche Presse, 5 November 1969)



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■ MEDICINE

Are inherited human qualities in danger?

GENETICISTS ON THE FUTURE OF MAN

At first glance there seems to be a close connection between the two problems linked in a discussion arranged by the Marburg University League under the title of 'Genetics and Society'. But it is essential to consider them separately. Only a superficial interpretation could mix up the question of whether the substance of human inheritance is condemned to gradual degeneration and the consideration if and how a human being could be genetically manipulated.

Contemporary human genetics did not invent the problem of if and how the threatening genetic decay of the human species could be avoided.

People touched upon this question as early as Charles Darwin who did not give a very hopeful reply when he said that natural selection no longer took place in our civilisation with the result that it was not the fittest that survived.

But the National Socialists misunderstood Darwin when they decreed that the 1934 Law for the Prevention of a Congenitally Diseased Children should be part of national ideology. This was based on the erroneous belief that the biological world would once again be healthy as long as sickness and suffering could only be suppressed by the introduction of eugenic measures.

Professor Helmut Baitsch, the geneticist from Freiburg, compared this theory with today's findings. We are already able to estimate the number of genes in humans and the frequency of certain mutations that lead to a sudden undesired change in hereditary factors.

But there is one more important aspect. People have realised in the meantime that it is a fatuous way of thinking to announce that some characteristics are advantageous and others injurious. The reverse could be true depending on environmental conditions. According to what Professor Baitsch told the participants at the Marburg discussion human cultural evolution was possible only because his genetic composition enabled Man to alter his environment continually. In other words, one of the main reasons that the human species proved to be a master stroke of nature was the fact that its culture was always able to change more quickly than its genetic composition.

These aspects should not be allowed to conceal the fact that undesired mutations caused by radiation and chemical substances are on the increase. And consideration must also be paid to the supposition tha humans with inherited complaints will have more children because of improved medical treatment.

In the near future people with slight mental ailments will probably have more children than the national average as they will use no contraceptive methods.

But Professor Baitsch dared to make the forecast that increased reproduction among people with slight mental ailments and inherited diseases would not lead to an alarming increase of defective genes. The survival of the human species was in no way threatened by this, said the professor.

Does this mean that we can sit back and watch further development without doing anything? For example we know nothing of the frequency of harmful mutations accumulated in Man but there is a lot of evidence to show that this genetic burden is very great.

According to cautious estimates made by the Tübingen human geneticist Professor Horst Ritter, among others, every human being has about five defective genes that can cause ailments if they occur in certain combinations.

Professor Baitsch said, "The sober judgement quashes with one blow all hopes of stamping out defective genes. There has never been a person who was genetically perfect, ideal and completely healthy and such a person will never exist."

In the view of Professor Ritter the ambivalence of medical treatment lay in the fact that by helping sick people it could harm tomorrow's population. But it is absolutely impossible to make any exact forecasts here.

The fact that harmful genes are no longer so rigourously eliminated as was the case in natural selection is certainly detrimental to the continued existence of human hereditary factors in future generations. But is it permissible to ask whether the number of people with hereditary diseases will increase without stopping until our inherited characteristics have degenerated to such a point that they no longer allow human life to continue? Professors Baitsch and Ritter raised the point that doctors had managed to cure five or six hereditary metabolic diseases by introducing dietary measures from birth. This treatment only stops the manifestation of sickness. Defective genes or genes that are completely lacking remain unaffected.

Professor Bickel, the children's doctor from Heidelberg, said that in the last thirty years over one hundred hereditary metabolic diseases had been discovered. Most of them are the feared defective enzyme diseases that cannot be treated for the most part, not even prophylactically.

Experts assure us that future cures will be of great benefit to humanity. But is this balanced by the disadvantages that we will have to put up with when people with hereditary diseases have children?

Professor Baitsch said that there would be an increase in artificial aids. As well as the mechanical and optical aids of today there would be biochemical and dietary aids. Although he personally did not generally regret this development Professor Baitsch conceded that we must accept is as the process could no longer be reversed.

The Göttingen geneticist Professor Becker was more optimistic in his beliefs. As the age at which people married was becoming younger and younger diseases caused by older parents would decrease. Marriages between blood relations are known to pose a stronger threat of inherited diseases on offspring – but there are fewer marriages of this type now than fifty years ago. As Professors Baitsch and Ritter also pointed out, the dismantling of social barriers led to a stronger process of cross-breeding among the population. Professor Becker saw in this trend a favourable influence on heriditary factors. Only the next few decades will show if this optimism is justified.

In spite of all efforts at clarity of expression and concept the course of the congress did not provide any answer as to future genetic developments. It is certain, to quote Professor Baitsch, that our redemption will not come from utopias but from a series or small realistic steps, the first of which will undoubtedly be the prevention of mutations.

Genetic advice advocated by Professor F. Vogel of Heidelberg would also contribute to educating the general public and perhaps lead married couples with certain inherited patterns to decide to have no children.

But this is far off especially when it is considered how difficult it will be to come to profitable talks on these vital matters with the appropriate political authorities. It was with good reason that Professor Baitsch quoted Albert Einstein's famous words "A new way of thinking is necessary if mankind is to survive."

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 November 1969)

Water, a decisive factor in life

False diagnosis and treatment of symptoms were once common because nobody knew the importance of water, soluble salts, acids and electrolytes in the human organism.

Now nobody can say for certain how many deaths were really caused by salt poisoning instead of supposed circulatory failure or how often fatal conditions such as eclampsia or epilectic fits, high blood pressure, coronary trouble or acute oedema of the lungs were not recognised to be a result of an excess of water. Is there a type of poisoning caused by water? Many experts are of that opinion.

Correct functioning of the human organism depends primarily on the balance between water and the salts present in it. If the balance is disturbed the brain is normally informed. If too much water is lost and the concentration of salt increases as a result, a thirst comes on. When the thirst is quenched the balance is rectified as long as the water deficiency is only negligible.

Unfortunately this mechanism begins to come unstuck right at the point when it is most needed – in sick people. Patients often have a very strong thirst but the worse that the water balance becomes the less reliable is the warning signal. The ability to experience thirst can even disappear gradually. The results are serious as a protracted water deficiency leads to inanition and progressive deterioration, affecting the central nervous system and often ending in a coma. In this state the patient is nearer death than life.

Only deeper understanding of the whole system enabled doctors to replace their grossly oversimplified advice with measures expressly aimed at stabilising the patient's water level. Contrary to former practice they begin with the cause of the complaint and not superficial symptoms.

Two examples of this will suffice, one of which is almost of everyday significance. Serious diarrhoea – resulting in considerable losses of water – was once treated according to he rule that the patient must not be allowed any liquid for a certain amount of time. It is however known today that many intestinal complaints can be the result of a disturbed water-electrolyte balance and that such cases should be treated by increasing liquid consumption and not vice-versa.

In the same way it is no longer necessarily correct to treat oedema by bathing it regularly from the very beginning. Professor Hanns Baur of Munich believes that it can be of far greater importance to correct the balance between water and salt by giving the patient high doses of salt and only then draw off the water.

From this viewpoint many treatments and diets once considered sacrosanct will have to be re-examined and adjusted according to the latest findings of research into the importance of water and minerals in the human organism.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 November 1969)

Lymphography aids early recognition of cancer

Professor Gunther Barth believes that cancers and malignant tumours in the lymph duct system can be diagnosed and treated earlier with the aid of lymphography.

At the end of a course for radiology specialists Professor Barth announced that Giessen University hospital had developed a method that could show tumours as small as one millimetre in diameter.

Professor Barth firmly opposed assertions that radiation treatment was of no success with lung cancer. He announced, "Patients being treated for lung cancer must be recommended to submit to further radiation treatment."

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 November 1969)

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■ AGRICULTURE

Farmers discontented with temporary measures

DIE WELT
UNABHÄNGIGE TAGESZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

The exasperation of the Federal Republic Farmer's Union is understandable. Any other such body representing vested interests in this country would react in like fashion if the income of the people it was protecting depended on dollar exchange and suddenly a revaluation lopped off 8.5 per cent.

Nobody would have had the divine patience to consider these circumstances without wrath.

But before our farmers start some kind of campaign out in the country they must be assured that the powers-that-be in Bonn and Brussels have done everything possible to cope with the situation.

They hope to have completely wiped out unjust losses for farmers by the end of 1973, as far as is possible.

There may be some dispute about whether the methods which have been agreed are elegant enough.

But it can not be maintained that farmers in the Federal Republic must bear the brunt of revaluation completely until the end of 1973.

Anyway, up till the end of this year the old price level is still in operation. The decision was taken to prevent revaluation affecting Federal Republic agrarian prices until 31 December 1969.

From 1 January 1970, however, agrarian prices will sink to a level corresponding to the revaluation level.

Losses incurred by farmers thereafter will be levelled off until the end of 1973 by direct aid from the Federal Republic budget, with supplementary aid from the Brussels agrarian fund.

Further help will be given to farmers by adjusting the rate of value added tax to boost the farmer's income.

The Farmer's Union is in the right. Additions to income from public funds and playing about with value added tax is insufficient.

How many farmers want to be involved in the highways and byways of value added tax? With an instrument such as this, in fact, it is difficult to protect them completely from loss of income.

The measures agreed upon lead to new iniquities, are dependent upon the funds in the Federal Republic budget and cannot compensate farmers entirely, since they consider themselves discriminated against in the eyes of other branches of the economy.

The Farmers' Union would have greatly preferred the Bonn government to press for extension of the breathing space which ends in. December this year to a point where effective measures could be taken to enforce a communal economic and finance policy and when future agrarian policy and the financing thereof in the Community could be settled amicably.

Translate this idea into the demands and the language of the Farmers' Union with regard to European policy and it will be expressed in these terms: abandon the European agrarian system until a European monetary union can be put into practice!

This demand is hardly likely to be met. The farmers are at the vanguard of the army which is fighting for integration and as such they have become the victim of a gross misconception.

Technocrats in Brussels believed that if a unified system of payments were introduced, the so-called 'green dollars', then a communal economic and finance policy in conjunction with a European monetary union would come about of its own accord.

Experience has shown that the situation in Europe is far from being so clear cut. It should follow as a consequence of this that the powers that be recognise their mistake and correct it by excluding agriculture from the EEC rule book until the monetary union has been set up. But to achieve this six governments must debat together. These talks covering four complex subjects, financial results of the 'green dollar scheme', financing of the agrarian market, the problem of surpluses and the reconstitution of agrarian policy should take a long time.

For the duration of these talks the Farmers' Union should cut its losses and agree to the suggested measures for reimbursing them.

Rudolf Herll

(DIE WELT, 14 November 1969)



Josef Ertl, the Minister of Agriculture in the new Federal government relaxing at his home in Bad Wiessee, Bavaria. (Photo: AP)

Josef Ertl - the new Agriculture Minister

His large, heavy build makes him resemble the image one gains of the primeaval dwellers in the country south of the sausage zone, the Danube. The new Minister of Agriculture, Josef Ertl is the only representative of Bavaria in the new Cabinet now that Franz Josef Strauss and Hermann Höcherl, two Bavarians born and bred, have left.

Ertl, 44, was born in Oberschlessheim, near Munich, the son of a farmer.

He attended the higher school at the agricultural faculty of the Technische Hochschule in Munich and in 1950 at Freising-Weihenstephan he passed agricultural diploma examination.

Ertl's accent and his temperament quickly give away the fact that he comes from a long line of Bavarians. He now lives in Bad Wiessee on Lake Tegor.

He is a man who goes out of his way to avoid being conventional and has no objections to reputation he has gained as the enfant terrible of his party. He freely admitted that he was not strongly in favour of the SPD-FDP coalition.

Ertl is not a left-wing liberal with an air of the intellectual but with his strongly marked national consciousness he is far more a conservative. He has made strenuous efforts on behalf of south Tyrol which has not made him too popular in the Federal Republic. Along with others who are infavour of south Tyrol being returned to Austria he has founded a south Tyrolean cultural institute to which he has been elected chairman.

Although he is a Catholic nevertheles he proved to be an opponent of all forms of clericalism.

In other words the new Minister of Agriculture is not free from inner conflicts. Perhaps this is the source of his frequent outbursts. He is not noted for hispatience particularly when he is confronted with something which strikes him as being illogical.

The acting Bavarian state chariman of the FDP has an extra burden to bear in his personal relationship: he is married to the daughter of the first CSU Minister of Agriculture Dr Wilhelm Niklas.

He has three sons. He is an enthusiastic skiier. When in Bavaria he is a keen angler, swimmer and yachtsman. He was a senior cadet and pilot in the Second World War.

How will he fare on the slippery slopes in Brussels? Since 1952 he has been in the Vabarian Ministry of Agriculture with responsibilities for directing the state council for youth, and in this time he proved to be no keen supporter of what was then the Establishment of agrarian policy.

From 1959 he worked at the Agricultural College in Miesbach. Since then he has given particular attention to the farming of alpine slopes and lowlands. In 1960 Ertl became senior agriculture adviser. He has been a member of the Bundestag since 1961 and quickly became the FDP's agricultural expert.

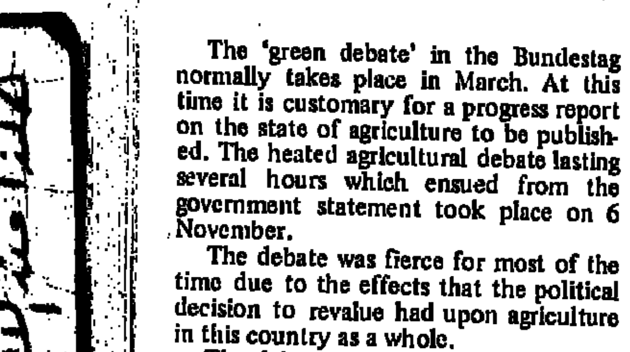
Two years ago his good work was rewarded when he became the acting party chairman.

Ertl has become Minister of Agriculture at a time when the EEC farming policy has erred into a cul-de-sac. He too has expressed the opinion that a communal agrarian policy will be ineffective without a communal monetary policy. He too has urged that new markets should be found for EEC produce in order to be rid of drastic surpluses.

Most supporters of the 'green front' in the new Bundestag sit on the Opposition benches. For this reason the right-wing liberal Minister of Agriculture in the left-wing coalition has no easy job. He himself is aware of his difficult task. His own self-confident comment is: "One Ertl does not make a summer."

Günter Wagner

(Handelsblatt, 28 October 1969)



'Green debate' in November

The 'green debate' in the Bundestag normally takes place in March. At this time it is customary for a progress report on the state of agriculture to be published. The heated agricultural debate lasting several hours which ensued from the government statement took place on 6 November.

The debate was fierce for most of the time due to the effects that the political decision to revalue had upon agriculture in this country as a whole.

The debate gave concrete proof of just how little it is possible to pursue an isolated agrarian policy in the present day. The close connection between agriculture and general economic, finance and budgeting policies was made absolutely clear even to those who are no experts on agriculture.

Ministry of Agriculture Josef Ertl had no easy position to defend especially as some Bavarian CSU hotspurs — newcomers to the Bundestag — repatedly tried to thow him off balance with interjections.

But Ertl knows just how to deal with his Bavarian compatriots. Ertl was able to greet his Bavarian opponents with one or two tricks of rethoric in good old Bavarian style and then go on to explain how he did not regard EEC agricultutural market regulations as sacred cows.

On the other hand, he emphasised, the political aims for Europe must not be endangered. This is certainly no easy task, but the Minister of Agriculture can reckon on support from the whole of the new Federal government. Chancellor Brandt emphasised this most forcefully towards the end of the debate.

Former Agricultural Minister Höcherl said that his successor's work would be judged on what he achieved for Federal Republic farmers, for consumers and for Europe.

Ertl's first major speech in the Bundestag showed that he is not prepared to capitulate before all these problems. The first essential is for this country's representatives on the EEC Council of Ministers to speak more forcefully. The new Parliamentary State Secretary at the Ministery of Agriculture, Fritz Logemann, stressed that no one on the Council could perform miracles. He said that the Farmers' Union and the Opposition should realise this.

A passing shot from Höcherl at the SPD's agricultural policy would be quite unfair. The party was accused of always having had a troubled relationship with the agricultural world. Without the support of the SPD agricultural policy makers the agrarian programme of the last government would scarcely have made so much progress. Often enough Hermann Höcherl himself had to fight against the stragglers in his own party with their help.

Ertl's predecessor have forgotten that so quickly.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 9 November 1969)

■ INDUSTRY

Steel production confounds the experts

THE WISDOM OF INVESTING TO STIMULATE CONTINUED DEMAND

Developments in the steel industry are a glowing example of how wrong prognoses can be, when it comes to estimating future turnover and production figures.

No expert from the steel industry would have dared to predict at the beginning of this year that with supply exceeding demand to a certain extent in the long run steel would become a seller's market, with some kinds of steel in particularly short supply and selling for a time at almost black-market prices.

The worldwide steel boom will now almost certainly not remain for a great length of time. Signs seem to have appeared on the steel export markets that export prices for steel have reached their zenith.

Experience has shown that with such a market-conscious product as rolled steel it is only a short step from stagnation to a drop in prices.

So the steel industry will have a continuing problem to face with regard to employment and price fluctuations. But this does not alter the fact that the demand for steel all over the World will continue to rise.

The Federal Republic's steel industry is wise, therefore, to build up its steel industry's investment policy around a continuing increased demand for steel. But caution must be exercised that the capacity of foundries is not allowed to race ahead of demand.

This means that the steel industry has to perform two duties at once. It must make long-term investments, since there is a time lapse from the planning stage to of new plant. And secondly the steel industry must react quickly to changes in the state of the market.

This year will probably be the best for the steel industry since the end of the War. Production is expected to be 45 million tons of crude steel, turnover and profits should be up, there will be increased dividends and the required boost to reserves will be achieved.

There is no cause, however, for raising the roof at this news. Costs have risen sharply and there is a greater need to step up competition against other countries.

This country's greatest rival is Japan which is continuing to expand and is causing industrialists here to think seriously about expansion and modernisation programmes.

Foundries must be made fit for production at a rate which means that should they go through an idle period with their capacity being used at far from full rate their balance sheets will not be in the red.

Investments made this year by steel men in this country show that in the years to come there may be foundries with excessive capacities into which demand must grow.

The present steel boom shows, however, that steel producers were well-advised in years gone by when they stepped up their production capacity, in case there was a sudden increased demand.

These reserves of strength are now being used to the full. Reproaches made in earlier times that steel producers were embarking on rash expansion programmes which would leave them with a lot of idle machinery have long since proved unfounded.

One further duty of steel producing companies is not only to provide their customers with tons of steel but also to give expert advice on how this product can be used to the greatest advantage. In short this means more market research and customer advice services than previously.

There are manifold possibilities for using steel in conjunction with other materials. These methods must be employed much more in future.

Logan T. Johnston, the American President of the International Iron and Steel Insitute, said recently at the annual general meeting of the institute in Tokyo: "The days are gone when a steel producer's concern was how many tons he could sell and nothing else."

The number of tons ofsteel required are continuously increasing. Reliable estimates say that the demand for steel all over the world, which in the present year is expected to be more than 550 millions and may even reach 570 millions tons. This will rise to about 900 million tons in the year 1980.

This all goes to show that the steel industry is numbered amongst those industries which are undergoing growth even through the growth rate is not so high as is general in the economy as a whole. It would be incorrect to presume this branch of industry no longer capable of development because it is old. It is not senile.

If the steel industry is to remain viable the state must place no obstacles in its way whenever it attempts to form industrial units, and indulge in various forms of cooperation.

The Foundry Convention in 1969 in Düsseldorf which is just about now reaching its climax gives a clue as to how the Federal Republic steel industry is approaching the problem of carrying out its manifold tasks.

The negotiators at the conference are also prepared to accept "the critical partnership" which the new government has suggested to the unions of the various of economy.

Karl Heinrich Herchenröder

(Handelsblatt, 7 November 1969)

Steel production figures climb

The Federal Republic's iron and steel industries have set up a new record for production in October this year.

An official statistical report from Düsseldorf states that 4,077 million tons of crude steel were produced. This figure exceeds the former record, set up in March 1969, by 3.6 per cent.

In the first half of 1969 the production figure for crude steel stood at 10.5 per cent above the figure for the corresponding period in 1968.

Crude iron production reached a new high — 3,021 million tons — in October this year, as well.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 7 November 1969)

Frankfurter Allgemeine
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When a newspaper ranks as one of the ten best in the world, both its coverage and its editorial contents assume international significance. Twice the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung has been named one of the ten best newspapers of the world. The first time, in 1963, by professors of the Journalism Department of Syracuse University in New York. The second time, in 1964, by the professors of 26 institutes in the United States.

"Zeitung für Deutschland" ("Newspaper for Germany") is a designation that reflects both the Frankfurter Allgemeine's underlying purpose and, more literally, its circulation — which covers West Berlin and the whole of the Federal Republic. In addition to 140 editors and correspondents of its own, the paper has 450 "stringers" reporting from all over Germany and around the world. 280,000 copies are printed daily, of which 210,000 go to subscribers. 20,000 are distributed abroad, and the balance is sold on newsstands. Every issue is read by at least four or five persons. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung is the paper of the businessman and the politician, and indeed of everyone who matters in the Federal Republic.

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■ TECHNOLOGY

Daimler-Benz unveil new electric omnibus

Among other newcomers to the Mercedes range unveiled at this autmn's Frankfurt motor show Daimler-Benz exhibited a prototype electric omnibus developed in conjunction with Bosch and Varta. It was even put through its paces at Frankfurt.

Electric-powered local transport buses have a number of advantages over diesel powered vehicles, particularly in urban traffic. Electric propulsion is virtually noiseless and does not generate toxic exhaust fumes.

Electric motors are particularly suited for use in motor vehicles. When starting and at low revs series motors develop a high torque, obviating the need for a conventional gearbox.

The prototype uses a direct current motor combining the advantages of a series engine with that of a shunt motor.

The driver has practically nothing to do but use the accelerator and brake pedals. The electronic controls developed by Bosch ensure smooth speed changes in accordance with the position of the pedal, so allowing the vehicle to keep in step with the flow of traffic.

Electronic impulse controls also serve to reduce the energy losses common to electric motors. The drive motor can be simply switched over from acceleration to braking and special switchgear even makes possible the generation of current during electric braking. During braking the drive motor functions as a generator and the power generated is fed to the battery.

In addition to the electric brake the bus also has a dual-circuit compressed-air brake system, which swings into action as soon as the anchors are slammed anywhere near full on.

Switching over to reverse is also as simple as can be. There is a button on the dashboard that switches the poles of the electric drive motor. A safety device ensures that this operation can only take place at speeds of three miles an hour or less.

Electric propulsion is ideal for public transport but the battery remains a problem. The range and economy of an electric-powered vehicle depend to a crucial extent on the weight, capacity and price of the power storage unit.

As yet only lead batteries are available and their energy density is relatively low for use purely as batteries while their weight and size are relatively large.

The Daimler-Benz prototype uses a special armour-plated battery developed by Varta. It has 189 cells and develops about 250 amps an hour. This drive battery is housed in five troughs and weighs three and a half tons.

Assuming the bus is half full, travels at a maximum speed of thirty miles an hour and stops every quarter of a mile this battery should last two and a half hours.

Battery operation only is thus impossible without recharging at the terminus. This is not only a complicated and time-wasting business; frequent quick recharges shorten the battery's life.

Changing batteries when flat might be another possibility but as the batteries are expensive it would make electric propulsion a less economic proposition.

For this reason Daimler-Benz opted for a hybrid unit. The prototype is battery-powered in the city centre; in the suburbs the bulk of the work is take over by a diesel engine with generator attached.

The diesel unit consists of a 3.8-litre four-cylinder diesel engine and an alternating-current generator. As the diesel engine runs at a steady rev count and the payload remains pretty much the same the degree of efficiency achieved is high and fuel consumption is relatively low.

Hybrid propulsion recharges the battery sufficiently to keep the vehicle on the road all day. At night the battery can be completely recharged from the grid, gaining the added benefit of cut-rate overnight power rates.

The propulsion system of the electric omnibus thus consists of an electronically controlled drive engine, the battery and the diesel/generator unit. The electric drive motor generates 156 DIN horse power and is capable for short periods and at a rev count of less then 1,600 rpm of reaching 204 horse power.

The bus has a maximum permitted weight of sixteen tons and can convey up to 66 passengers. On the flat its top speed is forty miles an hour. Under normal circumstances it can manage gradients of up to one in ten. For a limited distance it can even master gradients of one in seven.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 12 November 1969)

1. OM 313 motor with generator
2. Air cooling system
3. Electric motor with reduction gear
4. High tension equipment
5. Five lead batteries
6. Electronic steering
7. Blower for cooling batteries
8. Air compressor and power steering

(Diagram: Daimler-Benz)

Further developments in the fog battle

Roughly half a million Marks are all that stand between a team of German research engineers and the further development of a new means of combatting fog on airport runways.

In recent weeks fog has, for instance, plagued Frankfurt's international Rhine-Main airport. This October was the foggiest since the war.

Stoppages ocurred on eighteen days, 1,069 landings had to be cancelled, there were no flights whatsoever for 174 hours and the airport is estimated to have lost 1.5. to 1.7 million Marks in revenue. Lufthansa are reported to have sustained losses in the region of two million Marks, the losses being particularly severe in freight traffic.

Past attempts to clear fog from the runway for at least some length of time have mainly prove economically unfeasible.

During the war Britain developed Fido, the fog intensive dispersal operation, which involved cutting through the fog with a sea of flame. Herr Lange, director of Frankfurt airport, reckons that Fido, for one, is quite out of the question in this day and age.

Cold air fog, predominant in northern and continental climates, can be thinned by means of bombardment with dry ice, a method already current in the United States.

Warm air fog, which is more common in this country, presents more of a problem. In the United States chemical means have undergone trials. Professor Schmieschek of Munich, however, has come up with a mechanical process.

Foggy air is sucked into a pipe and through a fine sieve, which separates the water particles. The dry air is then shot into the fog and gradually the damp fog is dried out.

Trials carried out at Erbenheim field, a US air force base in Wiesbaden, and elsewhere have proved satisfactory. Visibility definitely improved even though only a relatively small, 250-horse-power unit was used.

To clear the 440 yards a jumbo jet needs to be able to land, approximately 130,000 horse power, equivalent to twelve Boeing 737 engines, would be needed.

Roughly half a million Marks are required to develop a larger unit. Talks at the Ministry of Transport in Bonn have yet to reach a final conclusion but airport authorities reckon that this is an instance in which the general public must help to foot the bill.

Industrial firms are obviously not yet prepared to join in, no doubt partly because it remains to be seen whether the fog dispersal breakthrough will result from mechanical or chemical means or a combination of the two.

(DIE WELT, 7 November 1969)

Opel's road safety research

Opel recently gave representatives of the press an impressive glimpse at the road safety research work the firm have of late been carrying out more intensively than ever at their Dudenhofen proving ground.

Despite head-on crashes of standard, assembly-line cars the star of the show was undoubtedly Oskar, a dummy designed according to the latest in medicine and technology and likely to provide a fair number of fresh insights into accidents and accident prevention.

A third-generation dummy, Oskar is said by Professor Luff of Frankfurt University department of forensic and social medicine to be head and shoulders above his predecessors. He is, for instance, the first to have a genuine skeleton, made of bonelike plastic.

Oskar's skin and muscles not only bear a striking visual resemblance to the real thing; they also respond in a similar way to mechanical strains and stresses. Far better and more detailed research into accidents and their consequences is now possible and Oskar thus plays his part in bringing about design improvements aimed at increasing vehicle safety.

Oskar Mk III, developed by Opel and General Motors, is not to remain the sole property of R & D staff at Opel's Rüsselsheim plant. Opel plan as a general contribution towards road safety research to provide anyone who is interested, including other motor manufacturers, with Oskar's vital statistics.



Oskar, the third generation dummy used in safety tests (Photo: Opel)

Opel have also disclosed that since the beginning of last year systematic records of road accidents involving their cars have been made and evaluated.

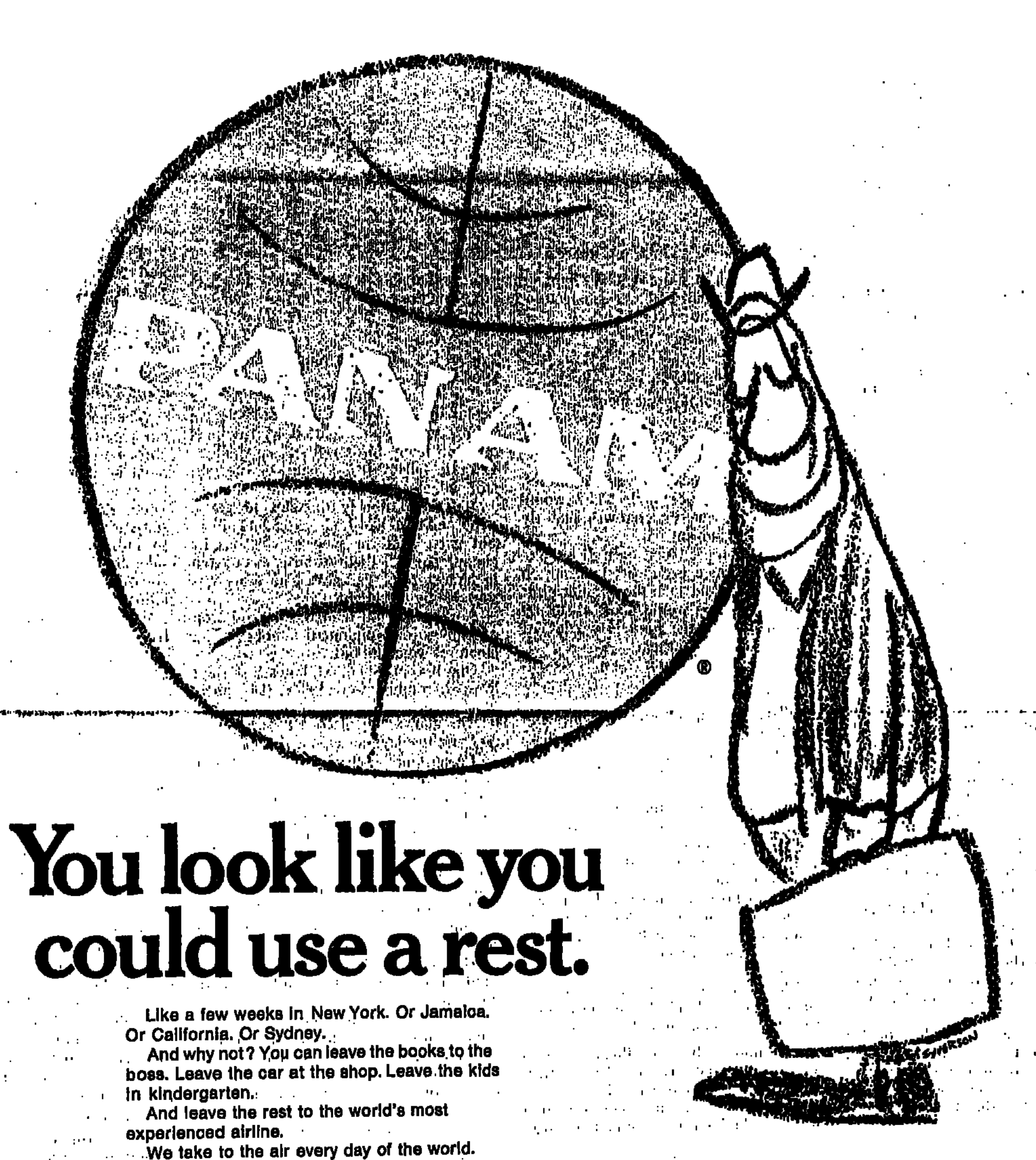
With the assistance of the authorities in Hesse and the Rhineland-Palatinate, road safety organisations, the Red Cross and medical institutes in Frankfurt and Mainz every accident in the Rhine-Main region, in parts of the Rhineland-Palatinate and as far north as Northern Hesse is reported to the works.

Opel then check the vehicles involved and compile data on the injured or dead with the aid of a questionnaire specially evolved for the purpose by experts.

The sole point at issue is the cause of injury or death and design improvements that might prevent the recurrence of the accident in question.

Systematic, practical accident research, unique in this form in Germany, is a sine qua non for scientifically-based improvements in the design of motor vehicles now on the roads.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 12 November 1969)



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■ MODERN LIVING

President's first bag of game

La politesse was to be seen in the foyer of Hotel "Kaiserhof" in Wesel. It was not a question of a diplomat's hunt so much as of a hunt for diplomats.

Dr Gustav Heinemann, President of the Federal Republic had invited his guests to this Rhineland town, to the Vluyn-Busch district.

On this evening there were two things likely to prevent you getting to the President's dinner on time – traffic jams on the Autobahn and Ambassador Tsarapkin's party to celebrate the 52nd anniversary of the Russian revolution.

President Heinemann took all this into account and fixed the dinner appointment for nine o'clock. The police had plenty to do – countless people asked the way to the "Kaiserhof", and countless times the police answered: "You can not go there – it's full up!"

On the President's menu there was: "Wildgalatine Hubertus" with truffles, French onion soup, vension steaks "Valkyre" and hazel-nut ice-cream.

Gustav Heinemann came dressed for the part. He had a huntsman's uniform specially made. But he did say that people should not jump to conclusions too hastily: he was not a huntsman and never would be!

Occasions such as this are important. It is not only in Bonn that important political talks are held.

The ambassador of the Central African Republic Kibanda gave a vote of thanks to the President in a well-written speech. All the guests at the reception were hunting garb including the highest ranking members of hunting and forestry commissions.

This could possibly be looked upon as a new form of political show. The evening was spent with long, witty discussions.

General Mearns from America repeatedly showed off the hunting knife he had received as a present from Gustav Heinemann. It was equipped with a saw, hook, tin opener, corkscrew and drill and was a cause of great astonishment.

The last guests left the dinner at about four o'clock in the morning. Ruthlessly they were awakened at six in the morning. At 7.30 a column wended its way westward.

Lauritz Lauritzen a member of the cabinet was in the column. Rain fell steadily. And then the fun began. 34 hunters armed with rifles waited for the beaters to do their job. The hunt was well organised.



President Heinemann attended a hunt arranged for diplomats. It was the first such meet the President had ever attended in his life. The President (left) is here seen examining a hunting horn. (Photo: AP)

The beaters beat. The birds flew. They were not sitting targets. But they fell.

Thus the morning was spent slaughtering game. Every now and then one of the hunters would complain that he had run out of ammunition.

The pheasants were sly creatures. Their tactics were good. They would emerge from the undergrowth and fly close to the gunmen.

They knew well that even at a diplomats' hunt there would be no firing on the infantry! And then the cunning birds would soar; they would soar so steeply that they knew the hunters would not dare to open fire on them.

Because of the rain it was necessary to use 3.5 mm shot. Smaller pellets would not be so effective.

In the meantime President Heinemann was looking for pupils at a nearby high-school in Neukirchen.

He was giving them critical lessons as a citizen of the State. State Secretary, Günter Diehl, one of the most prominent people to suffer from the coalition, was in a marvellous mood.

He described his condition as well-tempered optimism.

Sören Christian Sommerfeld, ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway, quickly and accurately lined up his sights. He was wearing a blue garment just like a sports angler.

Three African ambassadors were discussing the best kind of shot and Turkish Ogus Goekmen joined in the debate.

The midday bowl of thick pea soup was delicious and was washed down with a welcome of "Steinhäger" schnaps.

President Heinemann had a second helping. The hunting party had moved to a local inn, since the rain threatened to spoil their lunch.

By the afternoon the huntsmen were beginning to feel the strain. Their accuracy was being impaired by tiredness and too many birds were escaping alive. Pathetic fallacy had a hand – the rain stopped, and turned to a storm!

It was extremely difficult to get a good aim with hailstones cascading down. But even a storm such as this has its charm. The last flight of birds was beaten in almost total darkness. The mort was sounded by torchlight.

And at the end their was a good crop of killings for a diplomatics' hunt – 232 creatures were laid out.

One fox perished, 51 hares lost their lives, 23 rabbits were killed, 143 pheasants breathed ther last, two snipe died by the gun, seven pigeons were slaughtered and five jays suffered a violent death.

Executioner-in-chief was the Dutch envoy Jorissen who scored twelve. Afterwards he could discuss his prowess amid the talks on the relationship between the Dutch and Low German languages.

There was tie for second place between the French envoy Guy de Commines, State Secretary Diehl and Walter Henkels from the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* all of whom accounted for the demise of ten creatures.

The editor of *Handelsblatt* scored eight, giving himself an uncontested fifth position.

It is important to note that the two snipe both fell to the hand of journalists.

An official statement says that in all 1,246 shots were fired. Unofficial witnesses point out that in fact the diplomats blasted off more like 2,500 times.

(Handelsblatt, 11 November 1969)

Better prospects for domestic tourist industry

Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung

After three years of stagnation the summer tourist season this year showed a marked increase that was very welcome, according to the report made by the Bremen conference of Federal Republic tourist agencies.

At the conference it was pointed out that the autumn 1969 figures for tourism, internally and abroad, showed pleasing increases.

Figures provided by tourist agencies and organisations all over the country indicated that overnight stays increased 4.5 per cent over the figures produced for the summer half of 1968.

Official statistics indicate that overnight stays for the winter half-year 1968-1969 also increased.

The pace of travel in this country as compared to travelling from this country abroad would have decisively changed, it must be pointed out, if the growth rate for travel overseas had remained the same. Although there are no definite statistics on travel abroad everything goes to indicate that there has been a considerable increase in the trend to go abroad. On the other hand the tourist industry in this country has profited considerably from people's pleasure in travel.

When travel organisations in this country are being compared with one another the Schleswig-Holstein travel organisation is considered one of the best. There has been a ten per cent increase in the number of overnight stays. This figure does mot take into consideration the increase in stays at camping sites along the North Sea and Baltic coastlines.

Because the weather in this area last summer was so fine it is quite understandable that coastal resorts for almost the whole of the season were overcrowded.

As far as prospects for 1970 are concerned the Association for Travel Agencies has not yet shown any serious concern but the fact cannot be ruled out that this country's tourist industry will go through a rough patch. If a general price increase should come about particularly in service industries this country's tourist centres will have a tougher time competing with foreign rivals.

Even before revaluation the favourite centres in this country for tourism were having to battle hard with the Mediterranean countries, and those on the Black Sea and in north Africa. Since in these countries not only the service industries but also consumer goods may be well below the price charged in this country, the situation in the tourist industry could be described as completely free trade. In addition to this tourism in some of these countries is a priority branch of the economy and is subsidised by the State.

In the light of this the Federal Republic's Association of Travel Agencies would welcome the attention and support of the central government and Federal state governments to help make this country's tourist industry more viable.

The difficult situation for tourist agencies is comparable to the agricultural situation economically speaking. But tourist centres have no hope of seeing their problems dealt with at such length and with such urgency as farmers. Neither the public nor the government cares that much.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 13 November 1969)



A by-the-hour kindergarten in Cologne

Fast-moving times render necessary short-term ideas. Such a case occurred in a small community near Cologne recently. In the middle of the city, close to the business centre the community has established a kindergarten that operates by the hour.

Most people in Cologne think the idea a gift from heaven, although it is generally agreed that it is a project that would not work unless rules of the game were enforced, as it were.

The basic rules of this kindergarten that operates on an hourly basis are fairly strict. Twenty-five children between the ages of three and seven can be left at the school between nine in the morning and one in the afternoon. Every hour that the child spends in the kindergarten costs the parents one Mark.

If the mother or father wants to leave a child in the kindergarten to go shopping or for some other unexpected business reason then a special extra charge is made.

Being late for school, unless it is for some good reason, costs ten Marks.

Sound reasons are behind stiff rules of this sort. The community that has established the kindergarten has to pay the two nannies who operate it, taking care of the children and playing with them. Payments that have to be made to local authorities are met from the church collection made in the community.

The advantages that come from these rules, so it seems at least, outweigh everything when the organisation is seen from the children's standpoint. for them it can only be a marvellous thing to be able to avoid hours and hours wandering through department stores or the wasted hours spent in the doctor's waiting room or at government offices.

The people organising the kindergarten point out to parents that they can probably attend to their affairs with less worry and wear and tear knowing that the children are being well taken care of.

So that the kindergarten does not become a dumping ground for parents to rid themselves of the worry of the little ones for a definite space of time, parents have to commit themselves to bringing the children to the school at least twice a week.

When the child is handed over to the nannies the parent receives a 'collection ticket' which has to be given in when the child is collectd.

This strange innovation has its reasonable aspect. It is a safety measure. The people running the kindergarten fear that separated parents might use the school as a means of 'abducting' a child of the broken marriage.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 11 November 1969)

■ SPORT

Rudolf Kirchhofer and his efforts with sports training in this country

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

Rudolf Kirchhofer notched up his first victory at an athletics meeting at the age of six. German penthalon and skittles and Bavarian curling championships are but a cross-section of his sporting laurels.

After training well-known sports clubs for many years Kirchhofer set up a private gymnasium where many equally well-known people keep fit. That was over a generation ago. Now just turned seventy, Rudolf Kirchhofer of Munich is still going strong.

The half-acre grounds of the only private sports school in the country are located in the Munich suburb of Bogenhausen. Memeler Str 53 is all that the shiny brass name plate has to say.

The ultra-modern facilities cost their owner 471,000 Marks. Together with his wife Tilde and his daughter Dorle Rudolf Kirchhofer conducts courses from seven in the morning till eight at night.

Young pupils

His youngest pupil is two, his eldest eighty years old. A fair number of cups, plates and plaques decorate the walls of his office. Before opening a gymnasium in 1931 Kirchhofer was for many years trainer of Turnverein München and TuS Jahn. He has given fiftness traning in his new school since 1967.

"We are an extremely sporting family," Rudolf Kirchhofer relates. Before marriage his wife trained the youngsters of Munich 1860 and his daughter Dorle, several times Bavarian champion and in 1958 runner-up to the Federal Republic ice-skating champion, returned only a year ago from an eight-year tour with the Holiday on Ice company.

In a black and gold frame on his office desk there is a photograph of Princess Soraya. "When she is in Munich she rings me up and arranges a private session," Kirchhofer explains. "As a rule we do exercises designed to relax the body." The ex-Empress generally brings a tape measure with her and gives precise instructions as to which inches have to go.

Actor Hans Baumann is also a private pupil. "I need the training for my profession," he says. "I make a point of coming to Kirchhofer when I am on the boards in the evening. Theatre is then no trouble at all." Arm workouts on the bars and the rings are his particular bugbear.

Many opera singers come to Kirchhofer too. "We mainly do breathing exercises designed to keep the diaphragm in trim," he comments. Ballet dancers have also been known to call round at Memeler Strasse.

The Kirchhofers recall with a laugh ice-skater Manfred Schnelldorfer's unsuccessful attempts to clear the book. His fellow ice-skater Horst Faber, on the others hand, could never even manage a handstand.

Kirchhofer's most temporamental gymnast is Petar Radenkovic, star Munich goal-keeper. Consuls, captains of industry, fasching princes and the real things have all sweated it out on Kirchhofer's cycles and rowing machines.

Tots of two to seven prefer turning somersaults. Five hundred or so of Kirchhofer's clients have sweated their way to the sporting proficiency badge in gold.

Many of them refer to him in jest as the master of tortures as he fits them with twenty-pound shoes made of iron for fitness or has them juggle with 150-pound weights.

They all appreciate his habit of improvising. "In *föhn* weather you have little choice but to slow down and when someons is doing well pressure has to be piled on," Kirchhofer retorts.

Sporting activity, he feels, is a means of offsetting hectic business life. "I can name a fair number of managers who close board meetings and come to me."

"Everyone who does a lot of sitting down in his job is going to get stiff limbs and cramp," Kirchhofer explains. "Motorists, for instance, should always have a hammer with them and loosen up with it on the parking lot."

This advice is given by a mean of seventy whose own condition is eloquent proof of how young daily training can keep a man.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 November 1969)



70-year-old Kirchhofer training his 17-year-old daughter, Dorle on the gymnasium bicycle. Dorle has been the Bavarian ice skating champion several times. (Photo :WEREK)

Munich Olympics costs continue to escalate

The 1972 Munich Olympics are going to cost more than 1,000 million Marks, according to Carl Mertz, managing director of the company responsible for building the Olympic facilities. Overall expenditure, he announced in Munich, will amount to 1,150 million Marks. The last estimates were made in December 1968 and May 1969 and stood at 801 million Marks, to which has since come approval for the building of 74 million Marks' worth more, including the Olympic roof.

Mertz added that there was no guarantee this amount would not increase due to price rises in the years to come. "The 1,150 million Marks are the outcome of costing on the basis of present prices."

He has already outlined the new estimates to board and supervisory board members of the Olympic building company. The authorities responsible, the Federal government, the state of Bavaria and the city of Munich, have agreed, Mertz notes, that further work must be on the basis of the new estimates.

Higher expenditure is due mainly to new buildings. Horse racing facilities in Riem account for 75 million Marks of the increase, sharing this honour with permanent restaurants at Oberwiesenfeld, repairs and equipment for training facilities, land purchases for roads and a roof for the eastern stand of the main stadium.

Seventy-four million Marks more are to be spent on additional requirements in the space and function programme, such as multi-purpose equipment for gymnasiums and additional sports ground acreage.

Seventeen million more are the upshot of more detailed plans of projects already costed, a further twenty-two the result of underestimating costs. Seven million Marks are to be spent on artistic decor and a further sixty million will go towards changes in the basis of costing a number of items.

The major offenders are the Olympic stadium, which will cost 69 million as against 46 million Marks, the sports hall, which is now to cost 66 million, as against 44 million Marks, the swimming baths (58:36 million) and the marquee-style roofing of the key site (80:37 million Marks).

The grand total of 1,150 million Marks is, the organisers stated, to be raised as follows:

– 226 million Marks from the Olympic lottery
– 136 million Marks from sales of commemorative medals
– 28 million Marks from the Federal Ministry of Scientific Research towards the building of central university sports facilities
– 520 million Marks from the Federal government, the state of Bavaria and the city of Munich as agreed in the original financial agreement.

The remainder, 240 million Marks, will have to be met by the three authorities along lines that have yet to be agreed on.

Herr Mertz noted that roughly 200 million of the total 1,150 million Marks are going towards access facilities, including the Olympic section of the underground railway.

He stressed that his organisation's duty was to build the Olympic facilities with the funds available.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 November 1969)

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